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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1937

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AUSTRALIA'S CHOICEST
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EMBASSY CAR ATTACK EXCUSES

Japanese Take Stand On British Responsibility!

SOVIET CONSULAR CAR ALSO ATTACKED

UNION JACKS ON ROOF OF CARS AND ALSO BEING FLOWN

Shanghai, 12.35 p.m. To-day.

The Japanese attitude on the incident at Ming-hong yesterday when cars carrying British citizens including an official of the British Embassy were attacked and machine-gunned by Japanese aeroplanes, is that the British authorities were responsible.

They base their stand upon the argument that the Embassy cars failed "prominently to display the Union Jack," took a route which was not certified and used two cars instead of three.

The Japanese authorities also contend that the cars were of a yellowish colour and therefore "could only be regarded as Chinese staff cars."

These arguments, however, are not likely to be officially advanced unless the British Government lodges a protest against the incident, following as it does the shooting of the British Ambassador in somewhat similar circumstances.

A semi-official Japanese statement says that the planes ceased firing immediately they saw the mishap. His car broke down at Minghong at 7 a.m. He had telephoned the Soviet Consulate in Shanghai for another car, but accepted a lift from Lieutenant Murray owing to its non-arrival.

Flight-Lieutenant S. S. Murray, the assistant Air Attache, was the only Embassy official in the car. His companions were Captain W. L. Shinn (of the mercantile marine, father of triplets born in Hong Kong recently), Messrs. Grayham and C. Marshall.

PROPERLY NOTIFIED

It is now admitted that British notification of Flight-Lieutenant Murray's trip to Shanghai was received by the Japanese authorities.

It seems that one of the members of the party had a very narrow escape. He had just dashed out of the car when machine-gun bullets poured through the windscreen.

M. Shahov, Secretary of the Soviet Embassy, who was given a lift when the British Embassy car found him stranded on the road

with a car breakdown, was on his way to Nanking when he met with the mishap. His car broke down at Minghong at 7 a.m. He had telephoned the Soviet Consulate in Shanghai for another car, but accepted a lift from Lieutenant Murray owing to its non-arrival.

SOVIET CAR ATTACKED

In the meantime, the rescue car had also been machine-gunned by Japanese planes and the Soviet Consular Assistant, M. Borisoff, who was on board compelled to take cover in a ricefield. He was uninjured.

The British Embassy in Nanking has definitely confirmed (and it is not now denied) that the Japanese were notified of Lieutenant Murray's trip.

The Embassy also confirms that the cars were not only flying the Union Jack, but had the British flag painted across the top of the hoods.—Reuter.

CHINESE TAKE OFFENSIVE IN SHANTUNG

Tientsin, To-day.

After a complete lull over the last three days, severe fighting broke out this morning about ten miles to the south of Tientsin, when Chinese forces, heavily reinforced, attacked the Japanese positions in an attempt to regain the ground lost recently.

The attack was launched unheralded by artillery fire and with a ferocity that compelled the Japanese to retreat along the whole front.

It is reported that aid is being rushed by every available vehicle from Tientsin.—Our Own Correspondent.

STARTLING TOKYO REPORT

Tokyo, 2 p.m. To-day.

The Japanese information bureau issued a statement this morning declaring that Signor Mussolini, at Japan's request, has sent instructions to all members of the Italian Aviation Commission in China requiring them to resign their posts and to cease lending aid to the Chinese Government.—Our Own Correspondent.

DUTCH NAVAL PLANE CRASHES

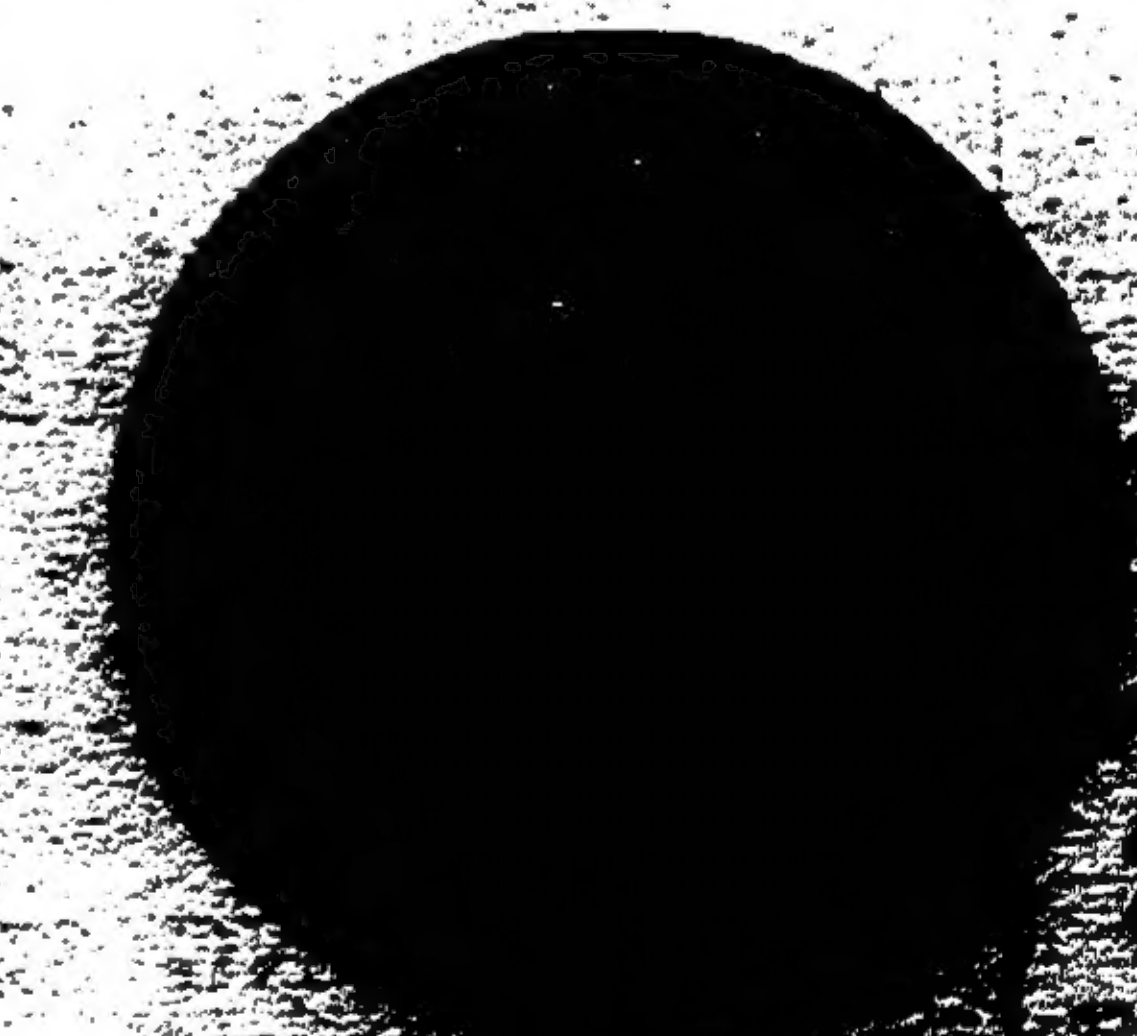
Amsterdam, To-day.

Nine members of the crew were killed early this morning when a Dutch naval plane crashed during a night flight.—Reuter.

Later.

It is revealed that the plane crashed in the Far East, near Brondong, between Batavia and Sourabaya.—Reuter.

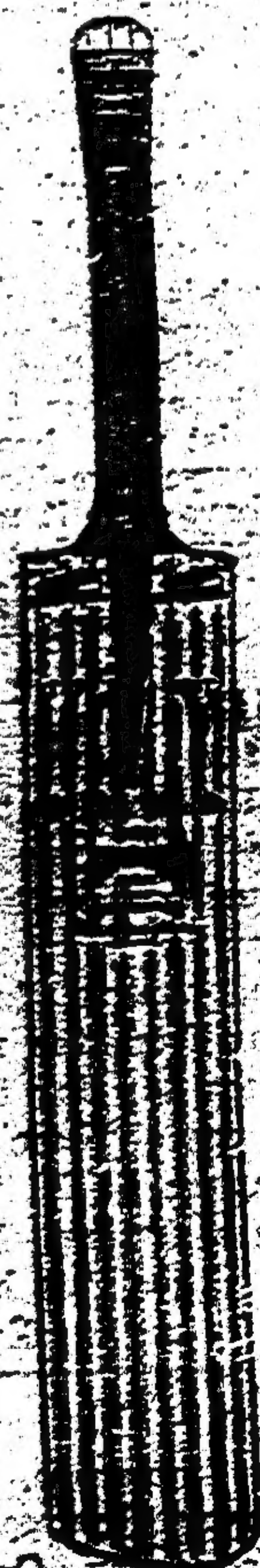
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THE POOR OF HONG KONG

St. Vincent Paul Annual Bazaar

The possibility of dropping the annual Bazaar this year was considered by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, as it is realised that the minds of all charitable people in the Colony are turned to war relief work.

The Committee, however, decided that that it would be unfair to the local poor to deprive them of the help which they need more than ever this year, and they felt certain also that it would not be the will of the charitable public of the Colony to neglect those at hand because there was greater suffering elsewhere.

The Annual Bazaar will therefore be held as usual. The date is November 7th, and the venue, as in recent years, Chatham Road, Kowloon. Preparations for the Bazaar are already well advanced.

CORRESPONDENCE

OUTING TO SHEK-O

Sir,—May I, through the medium of your esteemed newspaper, render our blind girls' heartfelt thanks and mine to all those kind friends who so generously contributed to the great success of this year's outing.

Everything was so encouraging from the very beginning while the weather was perfect, though perhaps it was on the warm side. We tremendously enjoyed the ride to Shek-O and back to the Home and were inexpressibly happy all the time we were on the beach. The afternoon's outing in the open air augmented by the car ride and the fresh air had made our appetite very keen when we returned to the Home where a very sumptuous feast awaited us provided in conjunction with the outing. The girls were exceedingly happy and thankful for the tasteful food and useful presents. In the evening, when lying on their beds, they could be heard to chatter and relate to each other their thrilling experiences of the afternoon. That day, among others of the previous ten years, will always be remembered by them.

The sum of \$380.80 (Dollars Three Hundred and eighty and cents eighty) has been handed over to me by Mr. Cunningham, the Honorary Secretary of the Christ Church Group of the V.D.M.A., who are responsible for the organising this outing, being balance of the money received in connection with the outing. This money will be spent for another joyful day round about Chinese New Year, when each girl will be given new clothes and possibly other necessities which are needed by them.

Little is much if what is done is in the interests and for the well-being and love of their fellow-men, and in conclusion I wish to thank, once again, those who contributed to and assisted in the success of this, the eleventh outing, and though it will never be possible for us to recompense them for their kindness we believe that the Heavenly Father, through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ who has promised that whatsoever ye have done to one of these ones ye have done it to me, will surely reward them for what they have done.

Olga Hacker.

Acting Matron in charge.

ARMY ON BUSES

Sir.—Re complaint in your columns of an army monopoly of buses during rush hours.

I as an Ex army man in Hong Kong, happen to know that men travelling from the range in Kowloon buses pay for their seats the same as any civilian, and if the soldiers happen to fill the buses now and again during Mr. Not Job's rush hour then it is his misfortune.

Ex-SOLDIER.

The S. S. Talma will leave for Singapore, Port Swettenham, Penang, Rangoon and Calcutta on Wednesday, Oct. 24, at 2.30 p.m.

DUKE OF WINDSOR GENERAL AND WIFE FOUND IN DESERT

BERLIN, TO-DAY.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF WINDSOR YESTERDAY MORNING VISITED THE CENTRAL OFFICE OF THE NAZI WELFARE ORGANISATION WHERE THEY WERE MET BY THE LEADER OF THE LABOUR FRONT.

Among the interesting exhibits they saw was clothing made from wood pulp for winter relief.

Later the royal visitors toured a workers' settlement.—Reuter.

London, To-day. Brigadier General A. C. Lewin and his wife who had been missing on a flight in the Sudan for some days have been found. The aeroplane has been sighted from the air and the occupants are apparently uninjured.

As it impossible to land in the vicinity, supplies have been dropped and a land party is on the way to the rescue. Brigadier Lewin, who is 63, was

SEARCH FOR SOVIET AIRMEN TO GO ON

London, To-day.

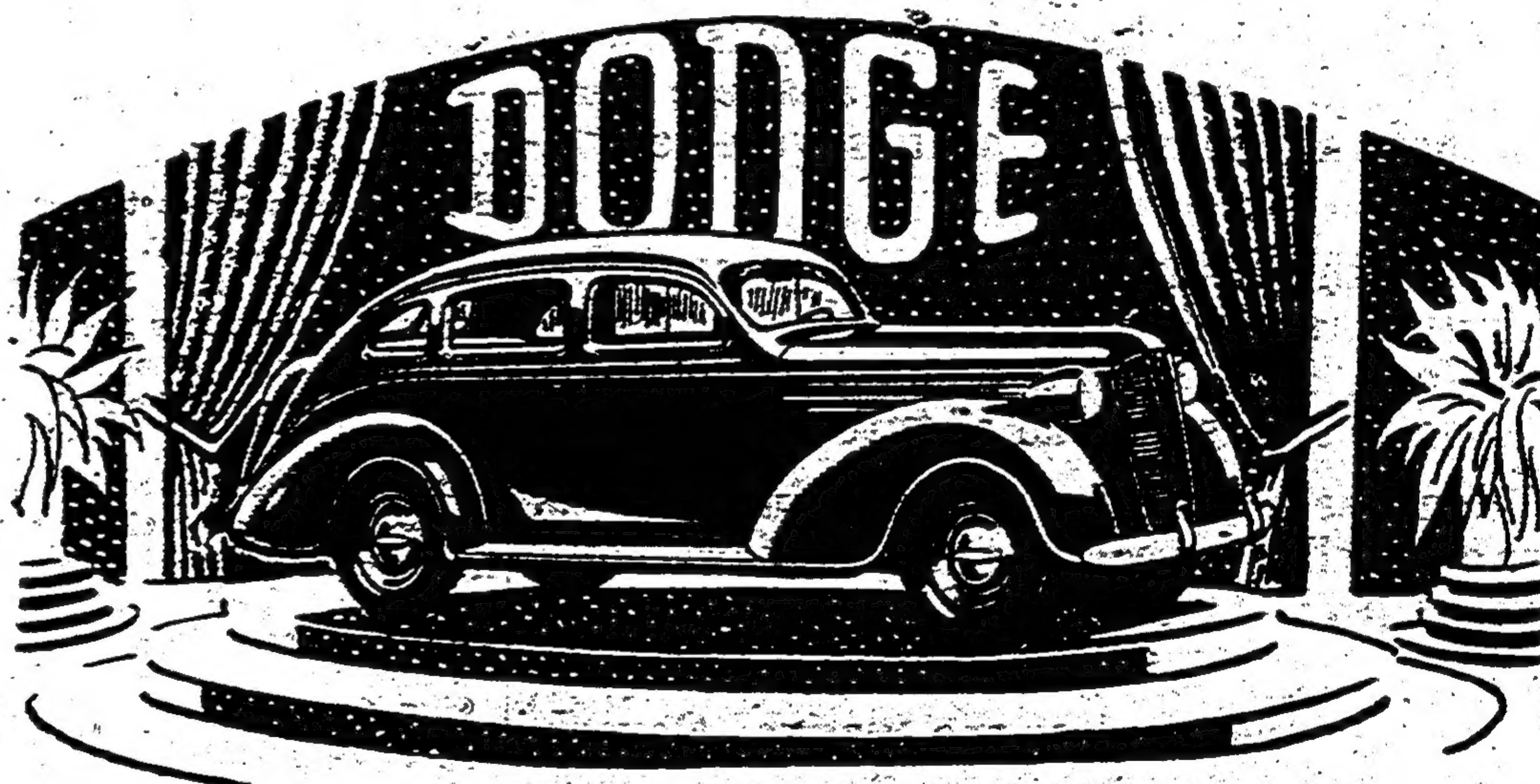
Sir Hubert Wilkins, the famous British explorer, has agreed to lead a new search for the missing Soviet airmen who disappeared in August while flying from Moscow to Alaska.

The Soviet authorities are purchasing a plane for Sir Hubert.—Reuter.

second in the air race round Britain for the King's Cup last month.—British Wireless.

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12-12.20 p.m.—Relay of Special Service from St. John's Cathedral.
12.30 p.m.—Three Songs by Frances Langford.
It's Like Reaching For The Moon (Lewis-Sherman-Marguerite).
Sweet Heartache.
Was It Rain?
(From "The Hit Parade").
12.40 p.m.—Jack Hylton & His Orchestra.
"Anything Goes"—Selection (Cole Porter).
There's A Small Hotel—Fox-Trot.
On Your Toes—Fox-Trot (From "On Your Toes").
Love-Live For Ever And Rule My Heart—Waltz.
Girls Were Made To Love And Kiss—Fox-Trot (From "Pagatini").
1 p.m.—Local Time Signal and Weather Report.
1.03 p.m.—Songs by Tino Rossi.
Tant Qu'il Y Aura Des Etoiles (Hornez-Vendresse).
Un Violon Dans La Nuit.
La Serenade A Lena (from the Revue "Parade Du Monde").
1.13 p.m.—Continental Orchestras.
Granada (Albeniz).
Orquesta Odeon.
Napoli-Tarantelle (Messacapo).
Chant De Sirene (F. Volpatti, jr.).

Orchestre Napolitain.
Lysistrata—Waltz (Lincke).
Ball Sirene—Waltz Times ("Merry Widow"—Lehar).
Orchestra Mascotte.
1.30 p.m.—Reuter and Ragby Press.
Local Weather Forecast and Announcements.
1.40 p.m.—Variety.
Orchestral—
At Dawning, The Land Of The Sky (Blue Water (Cushman).
Alice Blue Gown (Hornez, McCarthy).
Guy Lombardo & His Royal Canadians.
Piano—
Rhythm Of The Rain.
I Was Lucky (film "The Man from Folies Bergere").....Renara.
Humorous—John Henry's Night Out.
John Henry assisted by Gladys Horridge.
"Electric" Guitar—Mood Ruby (Len Fillis).
Vocal—
They're Always Together.
The Vegetable Blues (Crumit & Klein).
Frank Crumit (Tenor).
Orchestral—Out Of The Rag Bag—

Medley—Harry Roy & His Orch.
2.15 p.m.—Close down.
4-7 p.m.—Chinese Programme.
7-11 p.m.—European Programme.
1 p.m.—Dance Music.
7.14 p.m.—Musical Comedy.
Helen—Vocal Gems (Herbert, Offenback—arr. Karngold).
Columbia Light Opera Company.
"Home And Beauty" (C. B. Cochran's Coronation Revue).
Magda Neeld, Janet, Lind and Webster Booth.
7.30 p.m.—Closing local Stock Quotations and Hong Kong Exchange Market Report.
7.35 p.m.—Variety.
Orchestral—"Les Cloches De Corneville"—Selection (Planquette).
De Groot And His Orchestra.
Vocal—
Mon Petit Lit D'Enfant.
Depart (Lelettre & Aubret).
Lucienne Boyer.
Orchestral—
Lamento—Tango (Muck-Caros).
Land Of Magic—Tango (Cernard Winkler).
Heinz Huppertz & His Orchestra.
Organ—
The Merry-Go-Round Broke Down (Friend & Franklin).
Where Are You? (Film "Top of the Town").....Sidney Torch.
8 p.m.—Local Time Signal, Weather Report and Announcements.
8.03 p.m.—Studio—Concert by J. McNaught Thomson (Baritone) accompanied by Nura Kanis (Piano).
1. The Curfew.....Monk Gould.
2. Sink Red Sun.....Teresa Del Riego.
3. Shepherd see they horse's foaming mane.....Francis Korbay.
4. Here's to the best of us.....Pat Thayer.
8.23 p.m.—Studio—"China In Travail" an appeal by Dr. Y. C. Hoo.
8.33 p.m.—London Palladium Orchestra.
The Grasshopper's Dance (Bucalossi).
La Siesta (Barcarolle) (Norton, arr. Lotter).
Live, Laugh And Love

(Film "Congress Dances").
Old Vienna Moon (Lebert, Zadowski, arr. Cardew).
8.48 p.m.—Songs by Paul Robeson (Bass).
Ho! Ho!—The Wagon Song.
Climbing Up—The Mountain Song (film "King Solomon's Mines").
Love Song.
Canoe Song (film "Sanders of the River").
9 p.m.—London Relay—World Affairs.
A talk by J. K. Briery, O.B.E., Chichele Professor of International Law, Oxford.
9.15 p.m.—Gerry Moore at the Piano.
Dream-A-While—Slow Fox-Trot (Mercer-Olman).
Keep A Twinkle In Your Eye—Quickstep (from "Blackbirds Of 1936").
Slow Fox-Trot Medley.
Five Gun Two Lips—Quickstep (Feather).
An Evening With You—Slow Fox-Trot (film "Colleen").
9.30 p.m.—London Relay—The News & Announcements.
9.50 p.m.—R.B.C. Wireless Military Band.
Vanity Fair—Overture (Fletcher).
Woodland Pictures—Rural Suite (Fletcher).
1. Romance—"An Old World Garden".
2. Introduction & Dance—"In The Hayfields".
3. Humoresque—"The Bean Feast".
Le Reve Passe (Krier & Helmer).
Hungarian Dance ("From Foreign Parts") (Moszkowski, arr. Sommer).
10.10 p.m.—Songs by Evelyn Laye (Soprano) & Richard Tauber (Tenor).
The Night Is Young.
When I Grow Too Old To Dream (film "The Night Is Young").
Evelyn Laye.
You Must Have Music.
Heaven In A Song (film "Land Without Music").....Tauber.
Nobody Could Love You More.
Love Never Comes Too Late (Operetta "Pagatini").
Evelyn Laye & Tauber.
10.30 p.m.—Dance Music.
11 p.m.—Close down.

BRIDGE NOTES

By ELY CULBERTSON

Safety Measures

Samuel Fry, jun., was playing a three no-trumps contract in a rubber game at the Regency Club. After the opening lead was made, Mr. Fry saw at a glance that the number of tricks that he would make was problematical. If all the suits broke perfectly he could make a small slam; if everything went wrong he might not make his contract. Mr. Fry decided to employ safety measures to ensure against a poor distribution.

South, dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

S A Q 8 5 4
H 9 6 2
D 5
C A J 7 3

S J 2 N S 10 9 6 3
H J 10 5 W E H A Q 8 7 4
D Q J 7 3 S D 9 2
C 10 8 6 4 C Q 2

S K 7
H K 3
D A K 10 8 6 4
C K 9 5

Mr. Fry

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 D	Pass	1 S	Pass
2 D	Pass	3 C	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

West made the killing opening lead of the jack of hearts, East signalling with the eight and Mr. Fry winning with the king. Declarer could see that if spades were evenly divided he would make at least ten tricks. If spades did not break the contract could also be made by a successful club finesse.

However, in playing either suit, Mr. Fry might establish a trick for his opponents, and, as he did not know whether they could run three or four tricks in hearts, he deemed it best to find out. He made the unusual play of return-

ing a heart, whereupon East ran off four tricks in that suit.

Mr. Fry discarded three diamonds from his hand, and a spade and a club from dummy; and, when East now led a diamond, he won with the king and played three rounds of spades. This enabled him to discover that East, in addition to his five hearts, also held four spades, and hence but four cards in the minors. Mr. Fry then returned to his king of clubs and cashed his ace of diamonds, discarding dummy's remaining spade.

West had been forced to discard down to the high diamond and one club; so Mr. Fry, who could now count all four suits, led a club and went up with dummy's ace to drop East's queen and make his contract in spite of the adverse distribution.

Answers To Enquiries

G.A.C.Y., writes: My partner and I were vulnerable and we bid three spades, which was sufficient for game and rubber. My partner was doubled and our opponents made five tricks right off, putting us one down; but later, while my partner was making the remaining tricks, one of our opponents revoked, I, as dummy, pointed this out at the conclusion of the hand and maintained that we were entitled to two tricks for the revoke; so that, instead of being one down, we would be one over our contract, which, being doubled, would give us 180 below and 200 above—and the rubber.

Our opponents argued that we took nothing below and the two above for the revoke. We left it at that, and at the next hand our opponents, who were also vulnerable, ran out.

A—Tricks which have been made before the revoke occurs cannot be transferred. As your opponents made five tricks before the revoke, your contract was set one trick. The two tricks taken for the revoke would be scored above the line.

What's On At the Cinemas

AT THE ORIENTAL—"Marked the murder but encounters the daughter woman"—With Bette Davis, Humphrey Bogart, Isabel Jewell, Lola Lane, Eduardo Cienfuegos and Raymond Hatton. A powerful drama of pitiless exploitation and its nemesis. Opens to-day.

AT THE STAR—"David Livingstone", with Percy Marmont, Marian Spencer and Henry Hallett. An authentic and dignified reconstruction of the life of the great missionary explorer and scientist.

AT THE KING'S—"London by Night", with George Murphy, Rita Johnson and Virginia Field. The story reveals the London of tradition, gloomy to outward appearances in its veil of fog, but gay and dramatic in its lights and night clubs and deals with a mysterious plot and of a reporter out to solve

the murder but encounters the daughter of a wealthy man to find her deeply involved in the murder.

AT THE ALHAMBRA—"The Man In Blue", with Robert Wilson, Nan Grey and Robert Ellis. The central characters are a policeman and a boy whom the officer adopts after killing the lad's burglar father. Years later the boy is suspected of embezzling some money from the bank, and goes to ruin. The climax is provided by the return of faith and trust which bring his regeneration.

AT THE QUEEN'S—"New Faces of 1937". A series of musical comedies inaugurated with this picture to bring new talent from the entertainment markets of the world to the screen audiences.

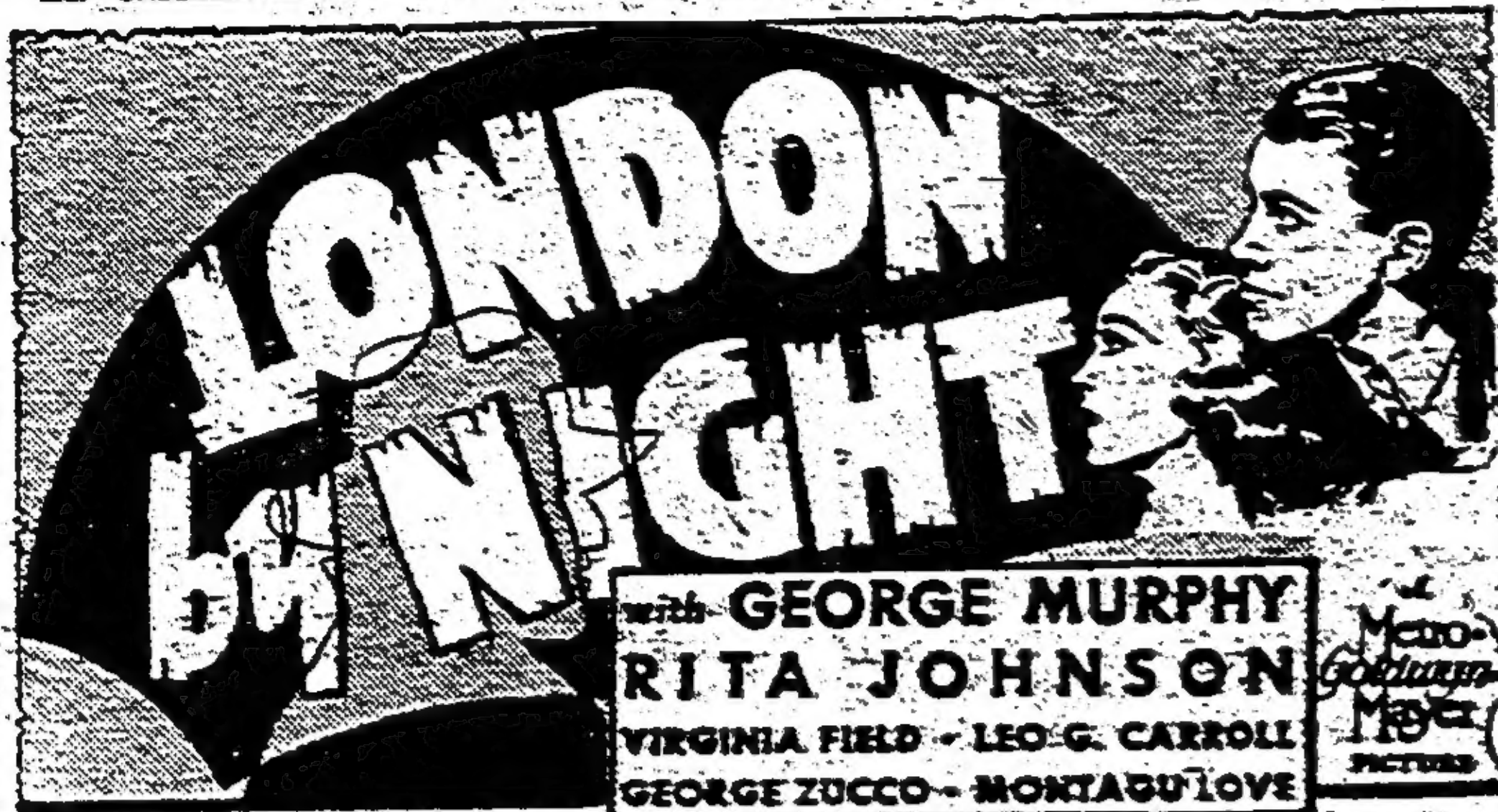


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PERCY MARMONT

Directed by James A. Fitzpatrick

FRIDAY
ONE DAY ONLY : Franchot Tone • Loretta Young
in
"UNGUARDED HOUR"R. A. GUNNER APPEARS
AT SESSION ON
MANSLAUGHTER CHARGE

Alleged to have lost his temper and would not have hurt any in the course of a dispute over the use of a billiard table in which hard words were used, and subsequently to have struck the late Gunner David William Beswick a blow on the chin causing death, Gunner Peter MacIntosh, 22, of the 7th Anti-Aircraft Battery, Royal Artillery, was arraigned before the Chief Justice, Sir Atholl MacGregor, at a Special Criminal Sessions this morning.

Accused pleaded not guilty to the charge of manslaughter and was represented by Mr. H. C. Macnamara, instructed by Mr. J. T. Prior, while the prosecution was undertaken by the Assistant Attorney General, Mr. John Whyatt.

The jury empanelled were Messrs. I. Rodger (Foreman), C. Blum, Tsu Hoo-chien, C. Crofton, A. Vannini, Lam Fook-ki and G. H. Gomperty.

The Assistant Attorney General pointed out that the case was a sad and tragic one from every point of view.

Mr. Whyatt continued that on September 20, deceased and a friend proceeded to the recreation room, when they found accused and Gunner Hills playing snooker, with another Gunner named Reeves watching them.

RIGHT TO PLAY

Deceased asked who was playing next and Hills replied that he would be playing next with Gunner Reeves. The deceased then pointed out that according to the rules two persons could use the table for half an hour and four could use it for an hour, but that they could not play for two hours in succession.

The argument continued while the game of snooker was played and at about 8.30 p.m. when the accused and Hills finished their game of snooker, Hills began playing with Reeves. Accused put away his cue and sat on the edge of the ping pong table on which deceased and his friend, Gunner Loftus, were also sitting.

Loftus grew tired of the argument, crossed the room and sat on a chair.

The argument developed into one regarding general orders and disobedience of orders. Deceased mentioned something about the accused not knowing anything and it was alleged that the accused replied that he knew enough to give the deceased a smack on the chin. The quarrel became more abusive and the accused threatened the deceased by saying "If you don't stop arguing I'll punch you on the jaw."

BLOW STRUCK

It was alleged that the accused aimed two blows at the deceased but missed. A third blow struck deceased on the jaw and sent him staggering about across the floor towards the wall, where he suddenly slithered to the floor and started groaning.

On the arrival of a medical officer it was found that the man had already expired.

When charged, accused replied that the blows he struck were fair

and would not have hurt any healthy person. It might have happened in any sport and it was just bad luck.

The post mortem examination revealed some slight external cuts and abrasions and something very unusual in the presence of an enlarged thymus gland. It was an established medical fact that persons who suffered from enlarged thymus glands were particularly susceptible to shock, causing heart failure. Death in the deceased's case was from heart failure due to shock.

Mr. Whyatt concluded that two facts must be established and they were "did MacIntosh's blow cause the death of the deceased?" and was the blow an unlawful one?" The blow, added Counsel, was undoubtedly unlawful and accused was guilty of manslaughter.

Evidence was taken and the case is proceeding.

NAVAL OFFICERS
LEAVING

The following Naval Officers and men are leaving for Home by the transport Dunera on Friday.

Lieut. R. H. Maurice (Falmouth), Lieut. R. A. Hunting (Falmouth), Lieut. G. J. Wright (Medway), Lieut. L. H. Kittle (Regulus), Midshipman M. D. Pope (Cumberland), Midshipman G. H. Carew-Hunt (Cumberland), Paym. S/Lieut. G. A. W. Haslam (Cumberland), Lieut. Comdr. A. G. Pope (Falmouth), Lieut. G. L. E. McClintock (Diamond), Lieut. (E), G. S. Thorpe (Capetown), Comdr. J. A. S. Eccles (Cumberland) and wife and child, Surgeon Lieut. A. S. Grant (Medway), Lieut. Comdr. A. F. Price (Cumberland), Lieut. Comdr. J. W. McCoy (Medway), Captain F. A. Eustace R. M. (Adventure), Captain G. F. N. Bradford (Falmouth), Lieut. C. T. Davis (Medway), Lieut. E. Bruce (Medway), Lieut. W. F. Skilton (Delight), Lieut. A. A. W. Baker (Diamond), Lieut. T. F. Halifax (Daring), Sub. Lieut. C. R. Gruning (Medway), Lieut. P. T. A. Love (Seamew), Mr. E. Makin, Cdr. Ord. Officer (Cumberland), Mr. A. A. Austin, signal Bos'n (Cumberland), Lieut. G. F. S. Robinson (Duchess), and Lieut. A. W. Goldsmith (Delight), 50 Chief Petty Officers, 50 Petty Officers and 240 ratings.

FORTHCOMING
WEDDINGS

The forthcoming marriage of Lieutenant-Commander Seccombe Felton, of H. M. S. Medway, and Miss Molly Elizabeth Jones, residing at the Gloucester Hotel, has been announced.

The wedding of Mr. Innocent Sasso, steward of the Hong Kong Hotel, and Miss Elsie Bernat, of the French Bank in Shameen, Canton, has also been announced.

H.M.S. Dorsetshire, attached the Fifth Cruiser Squadron, arrived at Singapore yesterday en route to Hong Kong, while H.M.S. Cumberland, flying the flag of Admiral Sir Charles Little, Commander-in-Chief of the China Station, will leave Hong Kong next Friday morning for Shanghai.

BUDGET DEBATE

(Continued from Page 4 D)

which apparently have been relegated to the background during recent years. I desire to know whether Government is aware of the views expressed on the subject by an agricultural specialist visiting Hong Kong.

The urgent situation arising out of the present food supply has brought home to us that the matter is of paramount importance. I hope Government will avail itself of the opportunity to secure the views and advice of this expert.

Again, is it a fact that the New Territories are producing less than 10% of our food supply? I should like to see this question thoroughly explored; also, how much of the present unproductiveness of the New Territories is primarily due to the poorness of the soil, and how much is due to want of scientific methods?

Unquestionably, the production of a sufficient supply of self-supporting products will be slow to attain, yet the sooner a commencement is made the nearer we shall be to the goal, and once a start has been made, we shall be progressively less dependent on outside sources of supply, and this is particularly true of vegetable products.

Moreover, my conception of the average farmer in the New Territories is that, economically, he is a poor man, and his lot is not always a happy one. I believe, that without the guiding and lifting hand of the Government, he can never hope to be out of the mire into which he had been sunk for generations past, although he is living under the blessing and beneficence of the British flag.

AIR RAID DEFENCE

Turning to Heading 27 dealing with Defence, it is reassuring to note that Government is not overlooking the advisability of safeguarding the populace against air raids, a contingency which I fervently hope will never arise. The sum asked for is so modest, that I trust it will be adequate for this important purpose.

Recent hostilities have repeatedly convinced us of the value of preparedness. Indeed, the old adage that to be forewarned is to be forearmed fittingly applies here.

With this object in view, I hope Government will institute an early and extensive campaign for the instruction of the civilian population on Air Raids Precautions, by the provision of an adequate number of Air Raids experts to conduct lectures and demonstrations.

I am glad to note that certain facilities for instruction are being given to a small section of the public, but these are confined chiefly to the teaching of Europeans and of English-speaking Chinese, who are members of leading firms. However, as the population in this Colony is so predominantly Chinese, it is obvious that if the plan is to be of real value, teaching must also be given in Chinese to members of the Chinese community. I am confident that many Chinese would keenly avail themselves of the facilities.

ST. JOHN AMBULANCE

As the St. John Ambulance Brigade has a very large membership and such splendid records of past services to the community, I have no hesitation in heartily recommending the Government to enlist its services in this respect.

In conclusion, I may add that under the present emergency the fullest understanding and closest cooperation should continue not only between Government and the Community, but between all sections of the community.

MR. M. T. JOHNSON

Rising Personal Emoluments

The Hon. Mr. M. T. Johnson said:—Your Excellency,—Honourable Unofficial Members of Council who have spoken before me have dealt so exhaustively with the Budget and other subjects that I may be mercifully brief, but there are one or two points to which I desire to call attention.

Under Head 3, Post Office (C), I observe that the transfer of the Wireless sub-department from Public Works Department to the Post Office involves an increase in the estimate for personnel of \$21,330 of which apparently about \$7,800 is due to additional work resulting from the establishment of Kai Tak Station. I appreciate that the Post Office is the proper Head under which this sub-department should appear, as I understand it is already under Post Office control, but it is disappointing

that the transfer not only effects no economy but entails a further addition to the constantly increasing charges on revenue of Personal Emoluments and pensions.

HALT SUGGESTED

Head 22, Medical Department, I note the explanations given of the increase of nearly \$70,000 in Personal Emoluments but quite apart from the Queen Mary Hospital there is still an increase of over \$50,000 in the rest of the Medical establishment. The total of Personal Emoluments of this Department grows steadily year by year and it is sincerely to be hoped that the new Director of Medical Services will find it possible at least to call a halt or, more desirable still, effect some economies.

Under Head 23, Sanitary Department, there is an increase in the Senior Clerical and Accounting Staff of one Class II and Class III Officers. The footnotes state the former is to replace an Officer on leave and the latter temporarily replacing a Cadet Officer. I do not understand the word replace as no such Officers appear to have been attached to the Department in 1937 and the proposed appointments will result in adding a further \$16,000 to cost of the Sanitary Department establishment for the year 1938.

ISLAND HERITAGE

Head 24, Botanical & Forestry Department. I would like to have seen something more than the paltry sum of \$2,000 budgeted for under his Head for the planting of flower shrubs, particularly in view of the considerable damage wrought by the typhoon of the 2nd September last. The beauty of this Island is a priceless heritage which it is our duty to maintain and which I feel is too often sacrificed in the interests of modern utilitarian convenience.

I do not know whether it is proposed to develop by building on the site of the former Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank houses in St. John's Place, but I venture to express the hope that this is not the intention.

I agree with what I understand was our late Governor's, Sir Andrew Caldecott's, view that such development of the Battery Path and Garden Road area would be vandalistic commercialisation of what should be one of the most beautiful parts of Hong Kong.

MURDER OF U.S. CONSUL AT BEIRUT

Beirut, To-day.

It is revealed that the American Consul-General, Mr. Marriner, was killed as he was about to enter the building in which the American Consulate-General is situated.

Eight revolver shots were fired at him and death was practically instantaneous.

The Armenian murderer attempted to flee but was arrested by the police and it was ascertained that he had arrived from the United States only a few days ago.

His identity has not yet been completely established.—Trans-Ocean.

CASUALTIES IN LIPAO

Canton, To-day.

An important sluice on the river in Sanshui District was badly damaged by a bomb dropped by a Japanese plane yesterday. The same plane together with two others raided Lipao, in the same district, causing damage to private houses and killing several non-combatants.

Enemy planes also concentrated on the important Parkiang Railway Bridge, which, however, escaped destruction.—Hua Nan.

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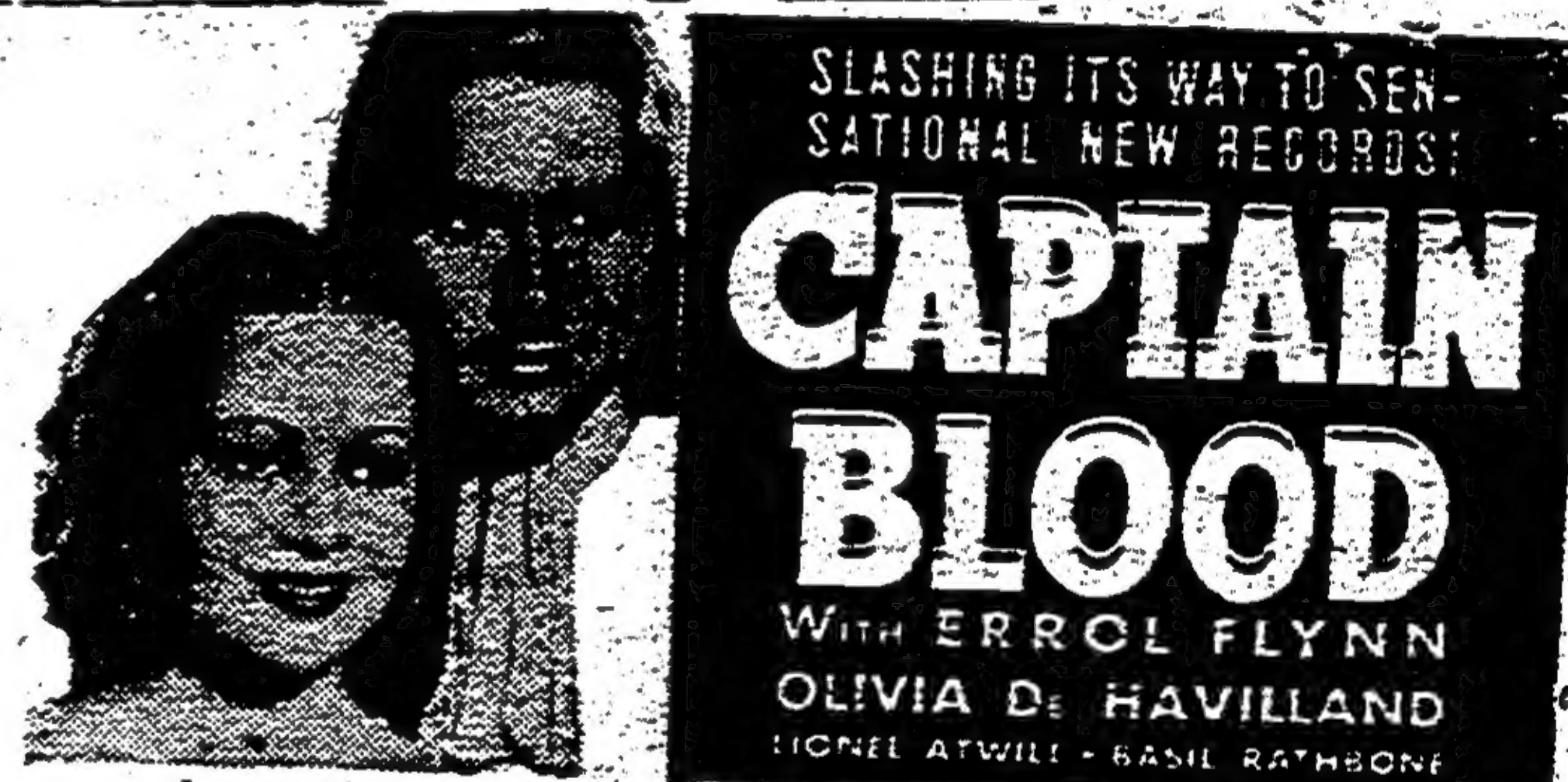
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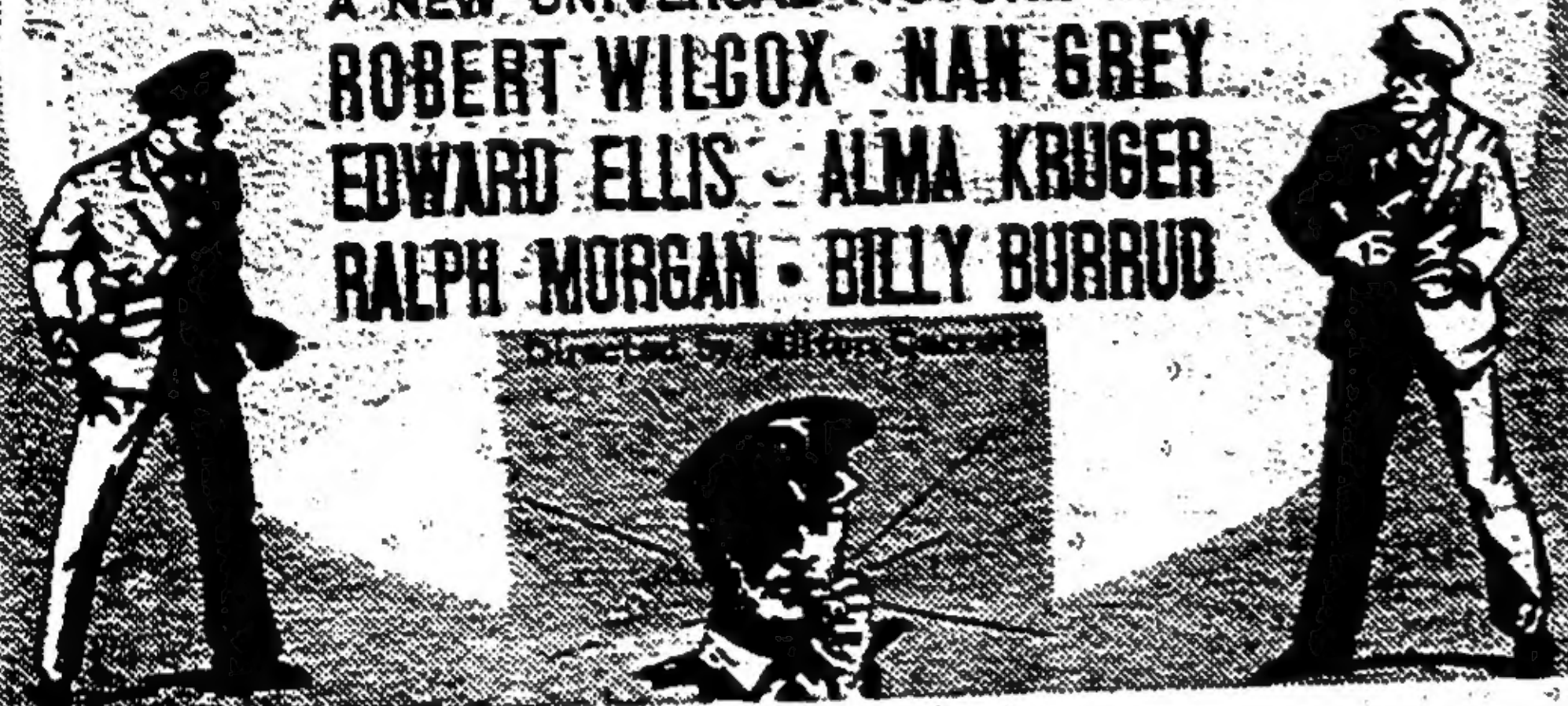
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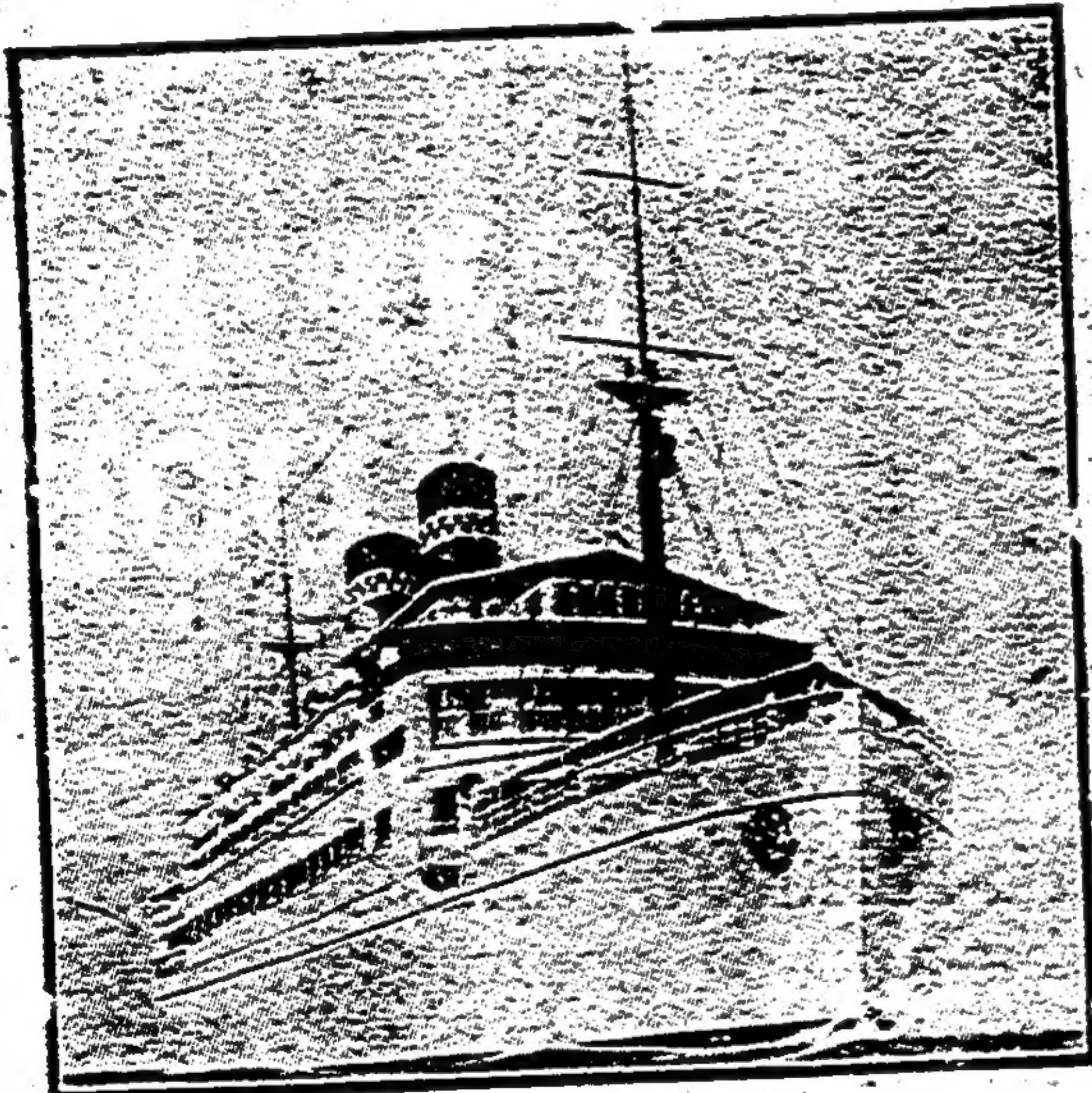
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AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS

News has been received from Home that Mr. R. Dunlop and Mr. F. Paul, both of the local St. John Ambulance Association, have passed as instructors Grade I in Air Raid Precautions (A.R.P.).

Dr. P. Ruttonjee, Misses Lopes, Fox, and Hung also during their visit to England qualified in Grade II (A.R.P.). At home, the officers of the St. John Ambulance Brigade are placed at the disposal of both central and local Government to supplement official re-

sources.

Dr. Bentall, the Home Office "Anti-Gas" expert, is A.R.P. Staff Officer to the Brigade.

It is hoped that shortly the Official film of Air Raid Precautions will be received in Hong Kong and shown to the public, as has been done in London and provinces. Mr. E. Raymond is presenting the film to the local corps.

The "President Jefferson" is sailing from Hong Kong at 6 p.m. on October 14 instead of midnight on that date, for Kobe, Yokohama, Victoria and Seattle.

YUGO-SLAVIAN PREMIER NOW IN PARIS

Paris, To-day.
The Yugo-Slav Premier, Dr. Stoyadinovitch, arrived here yesterday on a visit to the French Government.

After being welcomed at the station by the French Foreign Minister, M. Yvon Delbos, and the Yugo-Slav, Greek and Czechoslovak Ministers, he drove to the Champs Elysee to pay his respects to President Lebrun.

He later laid wreaths at the tomb of the Unknown Soldier and the monument to King Alexander of Yugo-Slavia.

M. Delbos gave a luncheon in honour of the visiting statesmen at the Quai d'Orsay.

MUTUAL ASSISTANCE

After lunch the two statesmen signed the protocol prolonging for a further five years the pact of mutual assistance between France and Yugo-Slavia concluded in 1927 which was prolonged for five years in 1932.

After lunching with President Lebrun to-day (Wednesday), Dr. Stoyadinovitch is leaving for London.—Trans-Ocean.

EXPANSION OF R. A. F.

London, To-day.

Foreign policy and defence policy work hand in hand for a similar aim—peace. So declared the Air Minister, Lord Swinton, in a speech dealing with the expansion of the Air Force.

The programme bringing it up to something like three times its previous strength was, he said, a task unparalleled in peace time. He mentioned that recruits were coming from every part of the British Commonwealth to join the Air Force.—British Wireless.

JAPANESE REPORT OF CHINESE RAID

Tientsin, To-day.

Japanese circles state that five Chinese bombing planes appeared over Taku on Tuesday at 2.15 p.m. and dropped four bombs, killing two Chinese and injuring another on the hand.—Reuter.

BRITISH CAMPAIGN FOR BOYCOTT

London, To-day.

A boycott by the entire sporting world of the Olympic Games in 1924 if they are held at Tokyo was demanded yesterday at a special session of the League of Nations Union by Mr. E. Noel Baker.

A number of other speakers supported Mr. Noel Baker's motion for a complete boycott of the aggressor in the Far East conflict, for the collaboration of all peace-loving democracies and the maintenance of peace by the authority of the League of Nations.—Trans-Ocean.

NINETY-TWO T.B. DEATHS

Ninety-two deaths occurred from tuberculosis in the Colony in the week ended midnight on Saturday.

In the same week there were 31 cases of cholera, 16 deaths, 20 cases of dysentery, seven fatal, 14 cases of typhoid fever, of which 9 succumbed and five cases of diptheria, two being fatal.

In the 24 hours ended midnight on Tuesday, 7 cases of dysentery were reported to the Health Authorities, as well as 6 cases of typhoid fever, three of cholera, one of diptheria and one of puerperal fever.



Queen Mary arriving at the Mansion House party for children given by the Lord and Lady Mayoress. (Fox Copyright: By Air Mail).

ANGLO-FRENCH DISCUSSION ON MEDITERRANEAN ISSUE

Both Quarters Reticent Regarding Trend Of Talks

BRITISH CABINET MEETING TO-DAY

London, To-day.

The French Ambassador, M. Charles Corbin, yesterday conveyed to the Foreign Secretary, Mr. Anthony Eden, French views of the next step following the situation created by the Italian reply to the Anglo-French Note.

These will be considered by the British Cabinet at to-day's meeting, after which British views will be communicated for consideration by the French Cabinet.

It is possible that further exchanges will ensure before the final decision.

Both British and French official circles are reticent regarding the nature of the views, and it is felt the negotiations are so important that they should not be embarrassed by publicity.—Reuter.

MR. EDEN AND THE PREMIER

London, To-day.

The Foreign Secretary, Mr. Anthony Eden, returned to London from Scotland.

He immediately visited the Prime Minister, Mr. Neville Chamberlain, and it is understood the Italian reply to the Anglo-French Note on Spain was discussed during the conversation.—Reuter.

DEVELOPMENTS HINTS

Nothing But Sheer
Speculation

London, To-day.

The Foreign Secretary, on his return to London yesterday, saw the Prime Minister with whom the newspapers assume he discussed the situation arising out of the Italian Note on which he will report at the ordinary weekly meeting of the cabinet to-day. Later, he received the French Ambassador at the Foreign Office when the latter may be presumed to have communicated to him the latest views of the French Government. Consultations between the two Governments will continue and in the meantime forecasts of future developments can only be of a purely speculative character.—British Wireless.

FRENCH POSITION

Daily Telegraph On
Attitude

London, To-day.

The French Government is stated by the Paris correspondent of the "Daily Telegraph" to have decided to accept in principle the continuation of negotiations with Italy in the non-intervention committee as proposed in the Italian Note, but only on condition that Germany and Italy consent to resume such negotiations within a reasonable time limit.

Failing such an assurance, the French Government will claim the

right to re-consider her whole attitude to the problem of intervention.

This means according to the correspondent, that France will regain her liberty of action and restore her treaties of commerce with the Valencia Government which were suspended last year.

Once these treaties have come into force again, France and Britain would be in a position to supply Valencia, with war materials.

The correspondent adds that the French Government does not wish specifically Anglo-French interests to be discussed at the non-intervention meeting, which the French Government believes is a matter for them alone.—Trans-Ocean.

FIRST LORD'S TOUR OF BASES IN MEDITERRANEAN

Alexandria, To-day.

The First Lord of the Admiralty, Mr. A. Duff Cooper, who is making a tour of inspection of British naval bases in the Mediterranean, arrived here on board the Admiralty yacht Enchantress from Cyprus yesterday.

During his stay in Alexandria, Mr. Duff Cooper will have conversation with the commander-in-chief of the British Mediterranean Fleet, Admiral Sir Dudley Pound, the British commander-in-chief in Egypt, General Sir George Weir, and the R.A.F. Air Vice-Marshal Maclean.—Trans-Ocean.

VALENCIA GIVES ASSURANCE

London, To-day.

The Spanish Government has addressed a Note to the Foreign Office in which the definite statement is made that the Government of the Republic would always be ready, in principle, to assure the withdrawal of the foreign volunteers fighting on its side within a general plan for the withdrawal of all foreign combatants taking part in the struggle in Spain.—British Wireless.

PICTURES TELEvised ON 'PHONE

Berlin, To-day.

The German post office has successfully transmitted television pictures over ordinary telephone wires.

A reinforced cable will enable a picture to be sent over a distance of 300 miles.—Reuter.

EMBASSY CAR INCIDENT

London, To-day.

No information has yet reached official quarters in London regarding the alleged attack by Japanese aeroplanes on the road between Nanking and Shanghai on motor cars occupied by British nationals.

According to the reports, the cars were flying the Union Jack and one of the party was the Assistant British Air Attache. No one was injured.—British Wireless.

ITALY'S HUGE SUBMARINE FLEET

Rome, To-day.

The Italian submarine fleet, already the largest in the world, is being increased further.

Italy, since December last, has had under construction 20 new underwater craft, building of which is being rapidly pushed on.

These new submarines, which are expected to be ready early next year, will bring Italy's underwater fleet to 108 vessels.—Reuter.

LOAN TO FRENCH RAILWAYS

Paris, To-day.

An agreement has been reached for a loan of 200,000,000 Swiss francs to the French railways.—Reuter.

N. ISLINGTON BY-ELECTION

London, To-day.

Polling takes place to-day in the by-election in North Islington. The Conservative majority at the general election was 3,385.—British Wireless.

China Railway Engineer Passes

London, To-day.

The death occurred to-day of John H. U. W. Williams, former chief engineer of the Canton-Hankow Railway, now being persistently bombed by Japanese.—Reuter.

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A PARLIAMENTARY TWAIN

IT DOES not take one long in the House of Commons to discover that the major attractions in British parliamentary life are Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Winston Churchill. Several times before the Recess I attended the debates. There was always a buzz of excitement in the corridors whenever either of these two titans was about to speak. Then half-empty benches began to fill up. In the purlieus of Westminster they will tell you that neither of these elder statesmen is influential. Some will call them gaddies; some obstructionists. That may or may not be the case. I only know that when I read the expulsion of German journalists from London, I was reminded of a very forceful demand for such action which I heard in the House from Mr. Churchill. Be that as it may, you do not run toward gaddies, and I had to seek some other explanation for the manner in which the duo attracted attention. Mr. Lloyd George has a corner seat at the end of the Front Opposition Bench "above the gangway," i.e., on the first block of opposition benches nearest the Speaker. "Why?" I asked a friendly M. P., with whom I was whispering on the bench. He was occupying under the Gallery. "He is not a Labour-ite." The reply I got was somewhat vague. "Well, he took that seat, and, since he is the Father of the House, nobody cared to disturb him."

There is also a distinction in having any reserved stall at all in Parliament, let alone one on the front bench "above the gangway." Few seats are sacred in the House of Commons, where, unlike most other assemblies, the elect of the people sit together on long benches, not separately at desks. You may be sure that Mr. Churchill shares that distinction with Mr. Lloyd George.

Churchillian sentences have passed into literature in some splendid

THE WORLD GOES BY By "ULYSSES"

I AM glad the Lawn Bowls season is over. Reading reports of local matches always brought back with a vivid intensity the days of my youth when I played the game, for the first and last time, in a country vicarage in Suffolk. The occasion, I recall clearly, was at first, a most convivial one. I had absorbed several tanks of sherbet and lemonade, and was quite ready to show my prowess when invited to participate in the fray on the grassy sward. Hiccupping gently, I picked up the wood, poised it as if I was putting the weight at the Olympics, and went into action, as the war communiques say. A tinkling of glass showed that I had scored a direct hit on the Vicar's cucumber frames. For some reason, this was not received with the applause I considered to be my due. In fact, the general bonhomie gave way to vague mutterings from the assembled country gentry, squires, landowners, gentlemen farmers and other hangers-on at a vicarage binge. However, they allowed me another shy. This time, I emulated the action of the American baseball pitcher, and scored another direct hit, the wood striking the jack. The latter ball, which I always regard as a feeble sort of thing, being a sort of poor relative of the fives or golf ball, disappeared in the direction of the remnants of the cucumber frames, which again tinkled (to my ears) pleasantly. The wood shot off at a tangent, lumbering along like an old-fashioned cannon ball, and mowed down a row of the Vicar's dahlias. They were the pride of his justly famed garden, those dahlias. You will notice, I said they were. After the broadside from my wood, the poor things lay flat on the ground, a monument to my skill at bowls. Stumps were then drawn in a general atmosphere of brewing storms, typhoons, monsoons and hurricanes. At dinner the Vicar only managed to say grace with an effort and several glasses of sherry. However, when the port (for which the man lived and from which he later died) had circulated several times, good humour was restored. The conversation, nevertheless, was kept off bowls, and I believe the noble game has never been played in the vicarage at F— since that eventful day. I do wish, though, they would stop playing it here.

My Moan

You may have noticed the absence of Ulysses from this space yesterday. You may possibly have wondered if it was the after-effects of the R.E.O.G.A. dinner or digesting of too much war news or the feeble humour of contemporaries. It was none of these things. The fact of the matter is, I went on strike. Not for more pay. Oh, dear no. Merely as a protest against the drudgery of writing this damn column daily. However, I was threatened with the sack or discharge, a potent weapon which my capitalist employers never hesitate to use. The result you see before you, staining the white purity of a page, this portion of which I consider should ever remain virginal, undefiled. My employers think otherwise, and it seems I shall be with you here until a merciful death overtakes me, or unless, of course, you, my lovely, kind-hearted readers, write in strong letters of protest against the repeated imbecilities on this page. Will you?

By H. B. Elliston

Another M. P. was in his place on tomes. The most recent is "The Life of my visits, but he hastily of Marlborough," Mr. Churchill's famous ancestor. One of these sentences occurred in one of the speeches I heard him make. He referred to a corner one, but below the I heard him make. He referred to a British warship "lolling" in Spanish waters. There was some scattered laughter. Mr. Churchill looked up in pained surprise till an most directly at each other across M. P. explained the laughter as the aisle dividing government party springing from the use of the word from opposition. Only they don't "lolling" in such a connection. "Oh," seem to glare any more. There is remarked Mr. Churchill, with the a benevolent look in Mr. Churchill's utmost urbanity, "the figure was eye as the sturdy Welshman, pink-somewhat picturesque, I grant. But cheeked and silver-white of mane, it arises from the idea of a large and briskly moves the few paces to the heavy body responding rhythmically short table in front of the opposition to the movement of the waves." And extension leaders, and starts to talk. I Mr. Churchill accompanied his noticed a kindred benevolence in planation with a "lolling" of his own the eye of Mr. Lloyd George when-body, which is becoming both large ever Mr. Churchill rose to his feet and heavy; and went on with his They seem to relish each other, these speech without a pause.

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CONFLICTING CLAIMS

Japanese: Substantial Advance Down Railway

CHINESE: SHIHCHIACHUANG DEFENCES HOLDING

SEVERE FIGHTING IN SHANGHAI

Peiping, To-day.

Despite Chinese denial of the breakdown of their defence along the Huto River, Japanese headquarters claim to have made further substantial progress in their drive down the Peiping-Hankow Railway.

Following the victory of Shihchiachuang, says an official statement, Japanese troops are thrusting swiftly into Southern Hopei in two spearheads.

The armoured train unit which occupied Yuan-shih on the Ping-Han Railway is now reported to have reached Kaoyi, ten miles further south, while simultaneously a motorised column advancing on the highway parallel to the railway, has reached Chaohsien, eight miles to the east of Yuanship.

The troops which captured Tsingsing are expected shortly to advance to the west in an attempt to force the narrow Niantzekuan Pass, commanding the railway to Taiyuanfu.

It is announced that the "Peace Preservation Commission" has decided to discard the name Peiping, meaning "north special city," which was bestowed by the National Government in 1928 after the deceased of the northern warlord, and revert to the former name, Peking, meaning "northern capital."—Reuter.

Nanking, To-day.

"Shihchiachuang is still in our hands," states a military communique issued this morning by the Nanking authorities. — Our Own Correspondent.

JAPANESE BREAK THROUGH

Strong Reinforcements Compel Retreat

Shanghai, To-day.

Amidst the series of engagements occurring on all fronts in Shanghai yesterday, the most serious was along the Woosung Creek, where the Japanese, with the support of a number of tanks, planes and artillery fire succeeded in breaking through the Chinese lines. They advanced nearly three miles southward after several hours of very bitter fighting.

The salient, however, was immediately attacked on three sides by the Chinese, who were by then heavily reinforced by fresh troops, and the Japanese were pushed back to the bank of the creek. As a result of this battle, both sides suffered severe casualties.—Hua Nan.

LIUHO LANDING

Position Rendered Untenable

Shanghai, To-day.

Japanese troops under cover of Japanese warships made four attempts to land at Liuho last night.

They succeeded in establishing a position on shore by their last landing but they were immediately subjected to heavy attacks by Chinese troops and their position was rendered untenable.—Hua Nan.

ARTILLERY STILL ROARING

Chinese Claim Lines Intact

Shanghai, To-day.

Four general attacks on the Chinese lines were launched by Japanese troops yesterday, according to a Chinese military spokesman this morning, who declared that although the Chinese suffered heavy casualties, they held their positions.

From 9 p.m. last night, the Japanese commenced shelling the Chinese positions again and had not ceased early this morning. — Our Own Correspondent.

GERMANY'S UNDERTAKING TO BELGIUM

Berlin, To-day.

An agreement between Belgium and Germany, which will not take the form of a pact but an exchange of correspondence, is now under consideration.

The relative documents, which will be published to-day, consist of a declaration of a German undertaking not to attack Belgium, and respect for her territorial integrity, together with formal acknowledgment by Belgium.

It is understood that the German statement will be analogous to the Franco-British declaration of April 24 releasing Belgium from her obligations under the Locarno Treaty.

GERMANY'S PACT WITH BELGIUM

Berlin, To-day.

The impending agreement between Germany and Belgium forms the subject of rumours and speculation in political circles here and while no official utterance has yet been made on the subject, the impression, nevertheless, prevails that concrete negotiations, which are believed to have been of far-reaching consequences, have taken place between Berlin and Brussels, conformably with the German Government's policy of seeking a direct understanding.

It is recalled here, in this connection, that Germany rejects the policy of collective agreements and favours the principle of tripartite conventions, which have not a nature of an alliance, and which are not directed against other states or groups of the states.

The naval agreement with England as well as treaties with Poland and Austria are cited as examples of such tripartite conventions.

HITLER GUARANTEE

It is pointed out here, that after Great Britain and France had released Belgium from her obligations under the Locarno Treaty, and the Belgian Government had rightly demanded that some other guarantee of her intangibility be substituted for the Locarno Pact, Chancellor Hitler had expressed his readiness to guarantee Belgium her independence.

It is recalled that the conception of Belgian independence and neutrality, as voiced by King Leopold III, has been fully appreciated in Germany and that it would, therefore, not be surprising if an arrangement were to be concluded between Berlin and Brussels by which, on one hand, satisfaction would be accorded to the Belgium demand for a guarantee, and on the other hand, a further positive contribution would be made for the stabilisation of European peace.

It is stressed in political circles here that, whereas the collective system does not exclude the possibility of aggression, the constructive policy underlying the tripartite agreements has already rendered a great and lasting service in assuring peace.—Trans-Ocean.

NORTH CHINA DENIAL

Chengchow, To-day.

The Chinese military authorities deny the reported collapse of the Chinese line at Shihchiachuang, and assert that the Chinese are still holding their positions after a series of hand-to-hand encounters.—Hua Nan.

AUSTRALIAN BOYCOTT OF JAPAN

Freemantle, To-day.

Carrying out the recent decision of Australian dockers to boycott Japanese ships, Freemantle dockers have refused to coal and handle cargo for a fleet of Japanese whalers.

The whalers have been compelled to proceed to the Antarctic, where they will be refuelled by a factory ship direct from Japan.—Reuter.

JAPANESE REPORTED CUT OFF IN SHANSI

Taiyuanfu, To-day.

The Japanese forces, which have advanced rapidly from Tai-chowshia ahead of the main body are reported in an official Chinese military report, to be in a precarious position.

It is claimed that the Japanese troops at Yuanping and Ningwu, moving to Taiyuan, have been completely cut off from Taichow, and are now in between two Chinese armies.

The force from Chu Teh's Army, which cut their communications is now moving to attack them in the rear.—Our Own Correspondent.



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Hong Kong, Wednesday, Oct. 13, 1937.

TRAFFIC IN NARCOTICS

No details have yet reached Hong Kong of the references to Japan in the Report of the League Committee on the traffic in narcotics, but the Colony has tragic reason to be acquainted with the result of Japanese encouragement of the traffic, while the "Times" comment gives a good general picture. It is plain, for instance, that the League fully confirms the charges of excessive poppy cultivation in Manchukuo and presents evidence of activities of so widespread and blatant a nature as to suggest a deliberate policy of slow demoralisation of Chinese citizens in North China and Manchuria. The "Times" cannot quite see its way to make this charge, but finds it disquieting that a nation which professes a desire to regenerate the East by its example, should be so blind to the moral and physical damage which is being wrought under its aegis.

By contrast, there is the knowledge that among the many admirable reforms which the Nanking Government was attempting until lately interrupted by the Japanese was the suppression of opium-smoking in China, a task in which Geneva shows, it was greatly hindered by the Japanese who wilfully encouraged the trade. To China the suppression of opium is a matter of extreme importance; it is difficult to overestimate the deleterious effects which the habit has had on the nation since the end of the eighteenth century, when smoking first became widespread. For, quite apart from the direct effects of the drug on smokers, it is an extremely expensive habit which a poor nation cannot afford. The poor smoker in China and Hong Kong, for that matter, almost invariably goes without food and other necessities in order to buy his opium. Little reliable information exists as to the effect of opium-smoking on the general health and for this reason some

amphlet issued by the League of Nations are of interest. The statistics, oddly enough, were compiled by a Japanese, Dr. Somei To, and concern the Island of Formosa, under Japanese rule, where a careful record of opium smokers has been kept since 1900. These figures show that in Formosa the death-rate of smokers over the age of 30 is a little more than half as high again as the death-rate among non-smokers. This high-death-rate cannot be directly attributed to the drug but to the weakening effects (including poverty) of habitual smoking, but the conclusion is the same. And when one considers that in 1935 there were still 1,500,000 registered addicts in China and that this number was only a small part of the total it is easy to see what a waste of humanity is represented. It is all the more important that Hong Kong and the authorities in other colonies or concessions in China should do everything in their power to co-operate with the Chinese authorities in opium suppression.

The Floating Franc

A year ago a pound would buy seventy-six francs; at the beginning of 1937, after M. Blum's devaluation, it would buy one hundred and one francs; two months ago, after M. Bonnet's devaluation, it would buy one hundred and twenty-eight francs; to-day it will buy, perhaps, one hundred and fifty francs. Hitherto the French Government had adopted the expensive procedure of trying to peg the franc at a given level by using the gold reserve to buy francs at dangerous periods. But lately the procedure has been at last abandoned, and the franc, it seems, is to be allowed to "float" and find its own level. Henceforward the Exchange Equalisation Fund will only be employed to smooth out day-to-day fluctuations and the franc will no longer be pegged. Many people think that the policy of pegging the franc was always foolish. For since there was never complete confidence in its ability to succeed and since at least until July the franc was probably pegged above its natural level, speculators were not discouraged nor hoarders at home or abroad induced to disgorge their gold or foreign currency. It is true that after 1931 sterling was only allowed to fall gently, but in contrast with France there was little liquid capital hoarded abroad, and the export trade could therefore be helped by a slow devaluation. In France the vital need is to defeat speculation and bring back hoards into circulation. Therefore, if the franc is allowed to fall to a low level—especially if it is temporarily below its natural level—speculators will be wary of selling too heavily lest they are caught and hoarders, who anticipate a rising franc, may repatriate their funds. Some accounts state that the sudden fall of the franc recently was caused by deliberate pressure from interested parties abroad. It may be so. But nevertheless the French authorities seem to be acting wisely in ceasing to pay out gold to offset such "bear" movements.

COOPERATIVE SEARCH FOR PEACE

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S FIRESIDE TALK

JUST MISSED UNIQUE RECORD BECAUSE OF WAR

Old hand well known on the China coast is among the evacuees in the Colony at present. He is Capt. G. St. N. Stocker, popular pilot of Swatow, who arrived here with his wife, a daughter and two sons on October 1, and who will be sailing for San Francisco tomorrow.

"I'm disappointed in more ways than I can think," said Capt. Stocker to the "China Mail."

"I wanted to pilot my four thousandth ship in Swatow before I retired and I had only two more to go. What a record that would have been for twenty years of work in one port! But," added the Captain, "there was nothing doing up there, and I'm going to try my luck in California."

Capt. Stocker, a naturalized American of English parentage, is one of the few remaining master mariners who received his early training on windjammers.

BIRTHDAY TO-MORROW

He doesn't look his three score years, which will mark a day of celebration to-morrow. There is very little silver in his hair; he's clear eyed, with a merry twinkle gleaming when he speaks. While the innumerable crow's-feet only bespeak the number of years he has put in behind the bridge. There was a time, however, when he deserted his first love, the sea, for the rip-snorting life of a cowboy in Wyoming; the sea having lost its flavour after a too steady diet of flap jacks mixed with sea water which was not in the least appetizing. Telling this story, Capt. Stocker said, "I thought I wanted to see hills, hills and more hills. I was thoroughly fed up with the sea. While I was a 'cow poke,' the boss one day asked me if I would like to kill off the coyotes around the range at four bits each. I readily agreed. But, when I found that he was paid a bounty of \$5 by the State for each one killed, I pulled stakes and headed for San Francisco again. This was in 1897."

BATTLE OF MANILA BAY

I joined up with the schooner, Harry J. Morse, and the next thing I knew I was mixed up in the Battle of Manila Bay. I joined the U. S. S. Callao and served throughout the war."

Joining the then Imperial Maritime Customs, Capt. Stocker served in the Chinese revenue service for fourteen years. In 1917, he became a full-fledged pilot at Swatow, having resigned from the Customs and also having in his possession his master mariner's certificate which he obtained in Hong Kong in '09.

In his forty years in China, Capt. Stocker has seen many strange sights but his most vivid impressions are of the typhoons that have ravaged the parts of the country in which he found himself during those times.

TYPHOON EXPERIENCES

He thinks the typhoon of '06 was the most severe, taking in consideration the number of vessels damaged and the state of unpreparedness

Broadcasting one of his popular fireside chats last night, President Roosevelt explained that Congress had been specially convened for November 15 in order to avoid a lengthy session next year.

He would ask it to consider immediately important legislation which his recent trip had convinced him the country immediately needed.

It was, he said, the President's duty to look ahead and not to allow the country to be deceived by merely temporary prosperity.

"The President must think not only of keeping us out of war to-day but in generations to come."

"We want a sound and permanent prosperity which will not be built up temporarily at the expense of any section or group."

"We want a sound and permanent peace built on a co-operative search by all nations which want peace."

Roosevelt declared that for most of the United States, 1937 was more prosperous, but they had never yet all that must be done to make prosperity stable.

They intended this winter to prevent a return to disastrous prices for cotton, corn and wheat.

"To carry out a Twentieth Century programme, we must give the Government 20th Century machinery."

"I recognise that democratic processes are slower than dictatorial processes, but I refuse to believe that democratic processes need be dangerously slow."

America needed a reduction of foreign trade barriers to improve foreign markets, but she should not overlook the chance of reducing its own domestic trade barrier right away without waiting for any treaty. —Reuter.

AFFIRMATIVE QUEST FOR PEACE

Referring to the quest for peace in a world of crisis, President Roosevelt said:

"Aloofness from war is not prompted by the unawareness of war."

"In this world of mutual suspicion, peace must be affirmatively reached for, it cannot just be wished, it cannot just be waited for."

In efforts to find a solution of the Far East conflict, it is the purpose of the United States to co-

operate with other signatories of the Nine-Power Treaty, including China and Japan.

that prevailed in Hong Kong. In later typhoons, those of '08 and '22, Capt. Stocker also experienced difficulties, losing two launches under his command, one of which was the famous old "Kwan Fung," of the Customs, at Lintin.

"I'm going to settle down in California," concluded the genial Captain, "and buy a partnership in a marine surveying business. I can still be actively employed for a number of years, and my younger children can attend good schools without my having to pay exorbitant tuition fees."

SPECIAL MEETING OF CONGRESS

Washington, To-day. President Roosevelt has called a special session of Congress for November 15. The sole object of the session is to discuss the Far East situation and the action to be taken. —Reuter.

THE NIGHTMARE: 100 "PHONES"

London, To-day. The Departmental Committee has reported to the Minister of Transport on their investigation of the noise made by motor horns, and has recommended a loudness limit of a value of 100 phones. It is the hope of the Committee that as other road noises are reduced, the limit set for audible warning by mechanically propelled vehicles may likewise be reduced. —British Wireless.

Railway To Give Classes

London, To-day. One railway company in Britain is organising measures by which 14,000 employees will be able to attend classes this winter on railway problems. —Reuter.

statement." America hates war. America hopes for peace. Therefore America actively engages in the search for peace. —Reuter.

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Remarkable scenes of enthusiasm were witnessed at Gosport on Oct. 4 when Endeavour I, arrived home after her adventurous voyage across the Atlantic. Photo shows—A member of the crew of Endeavour I besieged by autograph hunters. (Fox Copyright: By Air Mail).

ROME TREASON TRIAL

Rome, To-day.

A trial before the Italian Court for the Protection of the State began here yesterday when fourteen alleged anti-Fascists from Milan appeared.

They are charged with having organised a movement against the Italian State, and it is understood

that many others in Milan, involved in the alleged plot, were warned in time and escaped over the frontier.

The prisoners pleaded guilty and declared that they misunderstood the aims and purposes of the Fascist Party in Italy. — Trans-Ocean.

Injured as the result of a fall on the s.s. Cheung On, Li Chen was admitted to the Kowloon Hospital yesterday, but died later in the evening.

JAPANESE BUSINESS Message To British Chambers Of Commerce

London, To-day.

Japanese appeals to encourage true understanding of the situation in the Far East and to prevent anti-Japanese movements, such as boycotts, have reached the President of the Association of the British Chamber of Commerce from the Presidents of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and the Japanese Economic Federation.

The appeals allege malicious and exaggerated propaganda by the Chinese, and assert that the fundamental policy of the Japanese military is to exercise the greatest care to prevent all unnecessary loss of civilian lives and property, especially foreign.

The appeals deny that Japanese submarines have made unwarranted attacks on Chinese shipping.

The conviction is expressed that there is no reason to doubt that British vested rights and interests in China will be respected.

At the present critical point in Anglo-Japanese friendship, the documents fervently request the addressees to use their fair judgment in guiding British public opinion and endeavour to maintain economic relations between the two countries.

A reply has been sent that the messages will receive the fullest consideration.—Reuter.

Li Ko, a mason, was fatally injured when he fell from a beam in the ceiling of the Queen Mary Hospital yesterday.

An unknown Chinese was killed in Nathan Road yesterday, when he alighted from a moving bus No. 816 near Bute Street. The wheel of the bus rolled over him.

KING AND QUEEN RECEIVE U.S. LEGIONAIRES

London, To-day.

The King and Queen returned to London from Balmoral by the blue and white Coronation Express, "Queen Elizabeth."

Shortly after their arrival at Buckingham Palace, their Majesties received a deputation of American Legionnaires and their wives, who are at present in London attending the Assembly of the British Legion.—Reuter.

Ching Shui-tong was admitted to the Queen Mary Hospital yesterday suffering from head injuries received when she alighted from a bus in Morrison Hill Road while it was in motion.

Bringing Up Father



YES-COUNT TUSSIN WAS HERE TO GET A BIG LOAN-IT WAS A PERFECTLY GOOD BUSINESS DEAL-BUT UNDER THE BANK LAWS-WE WERE UNABLE TO MAKE THE DEAL-

WELL-I'LL GIVE HIM A LOAN TODAY-



I'M SORRY-BUT HE'S TO BE THE GUEST TODAY AT DINNER AND RECEPTION AT MR. HATESEMSELF-

IF HE WANTS THE LOAN-HE'S GOT TO COME RIGHT NOW-DINNER OR NO DINNER-PHONE HIM-



YES-COUNT-A GENTLEMAN-MR. JIGGS WILL MAKE YOU THE LOAN-GOOD-YOU SAY YOU WILL CANCEL YOUR DINNER DATE AND BE THERE AT FOUR?

GIVE HIM MY HOME ADDRESS-I'LL BE THERE AT FOUR-



WELL-I'VE FIXED IT-DINNER-TODAY-THAT'S OUGHT TO PLEASE A-

KING OF THE ROYAL MOUNTED



AS KING FLIES NORTH A REVENUE CUTTER SPEEDS DOWN THE STRAITS TOWARDS THE HIDDEN COVE ON THE ISLAND.



THERE ARE FIVE OF US, JERRY. WE OUGHT TO BE A MATCH FOR THEM, COUNTING ON THE ELEMENT OF SURPRISE.

YES, BUT DIDN'T YOU OVERLOOK ONE THING?



THEY'LL WONDER WHAT BECAME OF US?

SURE BUT IF THAT MESSAGE GOT THROUGH THEY'LL THINK WE'RE LOST IN THE GLACIERS, SOMEWHERE.



ONE OTHER GUNS. IT WOULD BE A MATCH FOR THEM.

IN THE DE

RENT CONTROL MEASURE URGED IN BUDGET DEBATE

Unofficial Members Of Council Survey Problems

PRISON POPULATION: GAOL REGARDED AS LUXURY

MUNICIPAL WATER UNDERTAKING

Most topical of many recommendations to Government made by Unofficial Members of Legislative Council on the second reading of the Colony's Budget Bill this afternoon, was the introduction of emergency legislation for the control of rents.

The Hon. Mr. M. K. Lo, who dealt with the subject at length, provided Government with the rough draft of an Ordinance which he thought would meet the local situation, calling for the creation of Rent Officers whose principal duty would be to decide whether a demand for an increase in rent was fair and reasonable or plain profiteering.

Alternatively, he urged that by decree three months' notice to quit should be made the minimum at the present time.

Sir Henry Pollock and other speakers referred to the demand for an adequate infectious diseases hospital, to the increasing burden on the Colony under the heading of personal emoluments, pensions, and so on, and recommended the establishment of a Committee to enquire into the use of Government quarters with the object of seeing that the Colony gets an adequate return for its money. The deduction of six per cent. from salaries for use of Government quarters he described as inadequate.

COLONY'S LUXURY GAOL

Strong criticism was levelled by the Hon. Mr. M. K. Lo and the Hon. Mr. Leo D'Almada, Jun. at the preponderance of hawkers' cases in the police courts and the "case book system" which provokes the situation, while Sir Henry Pollock suggested that the Colony's \$4,000,000 gaol at Stanley was too luxurious and as such as attraction rather than a deterrent.

Comfortable lodging, a liberal scale of food, regular exercise and free medical attendance, was Sir Henry's analysis of gaol conditions, in urging that conditions should be made harder.

The cholera epidemic evoked further critical comment, chiefly on the score of Hong Kong's unpreparedness and the high mortality rate.

The Hon. Mr. M. K. Lo pressed for the reorganisation of the P.W.D. Water Department as a separate municipal undertaking, charged with the task of keeping proper accounts and check on the avowed Government policy of not making a profit out of water.

SENIOR MEMBER

Sir Henry Pollock's Speech

The Hon. Sir Henry Pollock said:—
Sir, As the Senior Unofficial Member I desire to make the following remarks upon the Budget for 1938, on behalf of my Unofficial colleagues as well as myself.

For convenience I will, so far as possible, deal with various items in the Estimates in the same order as they were dealt with by the Honourable Colonial Secretary in his Budget speech. We thank him for his lucid explanations of Government policy, and for his memorandum on the Estimates. We also thank the Financial Secretary, of whose appointment we heartily approve, for his memorandum on the Colony's financial position for the years 1936, 1937, and 1938, and we thank the Director of Public Works for his notes on Public Works Extraordinary for 1938.

We regret that there is no Auditor's report.

It is reassuring to learn that estimates of revenue for 1938 have been taken upon a conservative basis.

We applaud the Government's decision not to impose additional taxation at a time like the present, when the costs of living are rising.

DISGRACE TO COLONY

We deplore the fact that our Budget for Public Works Extraordinary for 1938 has been reduced to so low a limit, because we consider that a modern hospital for infectious diseases, and a

new Volunteer Headquarters are urgently required. The last-named building is a disgrace to a first-class Colony, and we suggest that (whilst preserving the present Volunteer parade-ground) a new Headquarters and a second parade-ground ought to be provided by the Government. We suggest that the cost of these two buildings can properly be met out of Loan Account, just as appropriately as the cost of the new Central Market.

We hope that the recent complaints in regard to the Kowloon Mortuary will receive attention, and we should like to be informed how far the scheme for a new leper settlement and a clinic in connection therewith has progressed.

MENTAL HOSPITAL

Whilst agreeing in the necessity for a new Mental Hospital, we hope that the expensive plans which have been prepared in the past will be abandoned.

We are glad to note that early next year air-mail will probably be carried at ordinary rates, though at a considerable expense to the Colony in subsidies.

Passing on the Imports and Exports Department, we are struck by various disquieting features which are revealed in the Report of the Superintendent of Imports and Exports for 1936. For instance, paragraph 19 speaks of "the overwhelming growth of the menace of heroin pills," whilst paragraph 35 states that during 1936 "in 526 cases, 3,606,797 pills and 771 ounces of heroin were seized, a large majority of which were found in pill factories."

2,000 HEROIN DIVANS

Paragraph 42 estimates the number of heroin divans in this Colony as being in the neighbourhood of 2,000, whilst a paragraph 49 shows that this disgrace-

ful traffic has invaded the New Territories, with main centres at Un Long, Sheung Shui and Tai-po.

We are therefore, glad to learn that the Government has in hand new legislation to cope with heroin divans and pill factories, which will, in due course, be submitted to this Council for consideration.

We would urge, in this connection, that the keeping of a heroin divan ought to be added to the list of offences which are punishable by flogging. In China we believe that surveys of noxious drugs and persistent drug addicts are shot.

LUXURY OF GAOL

We view the proposals for the construction of a third Court at the Central Magistracy with mixed feelings, because we consider that the number of cases tried by the Magistrates or, to put the matter in another way, the considerable increase in various forms of crime is due to a great extent to the somewhat too luxurious accommodation for prisoners which is provided in the new four million dollar gaol at Stanley, where the inmates enjoy comfortable lodging, too liberal a scale of food, regular exercise, and free medical attendance.

We concede that the modern humanitarian treatment of prisoners in Britain is a success, but, having regard to the everyday conditions unfortunately prevailing amongst the poorer classes in Hong Kong, entirely different considerations apply here.

In fact in this Colony we ought to make prison conditions harder, and we trust that the Government will give its earnest consideration to this aspect of the problem.

POLICE PERSONNEL

We approve of the increases in Police personnel, and we desire to take this opportunity of congratulating the Inspector General of Police and the Force under him on the admirable order which has been preserved during the recent unfortunate disputes between the Chinese and Japanese Governments.

Much credit is also due to the Chinese in this Colony for preserving that calmness, dignity and self-control which is enjoined by their ages.

We heartily endorse the commendations by the Government of the excellent work done by Mr. L. H. King in connection with the development of wireless telegraphy and broadcasting. His retirement will be a great loss to the Colony.

COST OF SERVICE

We now pass on to a matter which vitally affects the spending capacity of this Colony on Public Works Extraordinary, namely, the abnormally and unreasonably heavy expenditure which this Colony has to bear in connection with the payment of pensions, salaries and allowances to sterling-paid Civil Servants, in consequence of the present low rate of exchange. That rate, so far as can be foreseen, is likely to continue, now that the dollar is divorced from silver.

Paragraph 7 of the Report of the Salaries Commission (published as Sessional Paper No. 7 of 1935 and com-

monly known as the Gollan Report), shows that the Commissioners, in making their recommendations for the considerable increases in sterling salaries mentioned in that Report took the dollar at the rate of exchange of 2/- as the basis for those recommendations.

In support of the above statement we quote the following extract from the said paragraph 7:—

"The dollar is now at a little under 2/-, and there is some probability that it will remain in the region of 2/-."

EXCHANGE BONUS

As this Council is aware, our Hong Kong dollar, since its divorce from silver, stands roughly at one shilling and threepence, i.e. \$16 to the pound sterling, as against the rate of two shillings to the dollar envisaged by the Gollan Report, and it requires no special aptitude for figures to realize how much sterling-paid Civil Servants are benefiting and how much this Colony (whose revenues are collected in dollars) is losing.

In short, sterling-paid Civil Servants are receiving not only a considerable increase in their sterling pay, which the authors of the Gollan Report did intend, but also an exchange bonus by converting that increased sterling pay into dollars at one and threepence which the authors of that Report certainly did NOT intend; thus seriously crippling the Colony's programme of Public Works Extraordinary.

SLUMP IN EXCHANGE

The big slump in exchange at the beginning of November, 1935, which has since become slightly accentuated, has made the recommendations of the Gollan Report as to increases of sterling salaries too favourable to sterling-paid Civil Servants, and we hope that, with the able assistance and experience of the Financial Secretary, a new scale of sterling salaries or some modification of the rate of exchange at which they are payable may shortly be evolved which is not only fair to the sterling-paid Civil Servants but which also bears some relation to the financial ability of this Colony to afford the payment of such salaries—a point which is apt to be overlooked.

The Unofficial Members of Council do not propose to waste the time of this Council by moving any amendments to the figures in clause 2 of this Appropriation Bill, although, for the reasons above given in criticising the Gollan Report, they must not be taken to agree with them.

GOVT. QUARTERS

Another point in regard to which it seems to us what some revision should be exercised is in regard to the privilege accorded to Government Servants of occupying quarters (which are paid for and maintained and repaired out of revenue) upon the basis of their paying 6% only of their salary as rent.

This seems to us a very low percentage of salary payable as rent as compared with the percentage of their salary which most civilians who are not Civil Servants have to pay in this Colony for rent.

We consider moreover that such a percentage should be on a sliding scale and not on a flat rate and that it should be calculated in such a way as to produce some sort of fair economic return upon the capital cost and upon the cost of repairing the buildings occupied.

COMMITTEE SUGGESTED

We suggest that a local Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the subject from the above angle of the Colony obtaining a fair return on its money. The recent typhoon of the 2nd September serves to emphasize the big bill which the taxpayer has sometimes to meet for repairs to Government buildings.

HON. MR. T. N. CHAU

Urges Govt. Grant to Junk People

The Hon. Mr. T. N. Chau said:—
Sir, I am in general agreement with the remarks of the Hon. Senior Unofficial Member, and I wish at the same time to associate myself with his expression of congratulations to the Hon. Colonial Secretary, the Hon. Financial Secretary, and the Hon. Direc-

WATER SUPPLY DEPARTMENT

Never Run On Strictly Business Basis: Mr. M. K. Lo

STRICTLY BUSINESS

tor of Public Works.

It is a matter of extreme gratification to the Chinese community that the Government has decided not to impose additional taxation. This decision, if I may be permitted to say so, is a wise one, in view of the steady rise in the cost of living and the uncertainty of the future.

The Hon. Senior Unofficial Member has, on behalf of all Unofficial Members, tendered congratulations to the Hon. Inspector General of Police and to the Force under him on the good order which they have maintained. It is a matter of great pride to my Chinese colleagues and myself that in times like these the Chinese residents of Hong Kong should have conducted themselves with such admirable self-restraint, calmness and dignity, thus vindicating once more their reputation as a peace-loving and law-abiding people.

HAVEN OF REFUGE

While on this subject I should like to express, on behalf of the Chinese community, appreciation of the policy of the Government in regard to refugees. True to its tradition, Hong Kong has thrown open its doors to all and sundry who have chosen this place as a haven of refuge, and at the same time is affording protection to all without distinction of race or nationality.

My Chinese colleagues and I express the strong hope that the Government will do everything in their power to suppress the evil of heroin traffic. The problem is admittedly a difficult one. In spite of increased vigilance on the part of the authorities, and in spite of the long terms of imprisonment imposed by our Courts, the traffic remains unabated.

CASE FOR FLOGGING

It seems to us that the time has come when flogging should be tried. We know how reluctant successive Secretaries of State for the Colonies have been in sanctioning this form of penalty, but where other measures have been tried and have failed, and when the health of the community and of future generations is at stake, we have no hesitation in advocating the adoption of this extraordinary measure to meet the extraordinary situation. We would therefore urge the Government once more to represent this strong recommendation to the Secretary of State.

The proposed appointment of a Lady Assistant and three additional female inspectors to be attached to the Secretariat for Chinese Affairs for multi-tal work is, I think, a step in the right direction, and, in my humble opinion, it should not be difficult to find suitable Chinese candidates for these appointments.

CHARITIES FUND

My Chinese colleagues and I have noted with pleasure the decision of the Government to increase the grant to the General Chinese Charities Fund by \$30,000 a year. The Tung Wah Hospital and its associate hospitals are the institutions that would most benefit by this augmented subsidy. These hospitals are finding it increasingly difficult to make both ends meet, for not only have their main sources of income, which is derived from property and mortgage interest, shown enormous decreases during the past few years owing to the depressed condition of the property market, but greater expenditure has had to be incurred on account of the large increase in the number of patients treated in these hospitals. It is no exaggeration to say that if the Government were to take over the management of these institutions, the cost to the community would be increased at least threefold. We therefore venture to express the hope that should the Directors of these hospitals find it necessary to make an appeal to the Government for a special grant to enable them to balance their budget for the current year, their request will receive sympathetic and favourable consideration.

POLICE EXPERIMENT

Another decision of the Government which has given much gratification to the Chinese community is the appointment of 10 additional Cantonese Sub-Inspectors to replace an equal number of European Lance Sergeants. Although the scheme is, as stated by the Hon. Colonial Secretary, in the nature of an experiment, there is no doubt in my mind that it will prove to be a success. It should, however, be

remembered that right selections are of the utmost importance, and in this direction my Chinese colleagues and I would be pleased to assist the Hon. Inspector General of Police.

The policy of gradually opening to local men some of the posts hitherto held by Europeans is one that should commend itself to all sections of the community. Not only can substantial savings be thus effected in salaries, pensions and passage money, but the policy may be considered to be a just recognition of the loyalty and co-operation which have always been shown by the Chinese community who are incidentally, the largest taxpayers.

TYPHOON JUNK DISASTER

The typhoon of the 2nd September took a heavy toll of life and property. While the extent of the damage can never be fully known, it has been reported that about 1,200 junks and sampans were totally lost, and thousands of poor people have been rendered homeless. Though subscriptions amounting to a little over \$4,000 have been received, the sum is hopelessly insufficient for the twofold purpose of giving immediate aid to the sufferers, and of assisting a large number of them in the re-erection of their demolished houses, or the replacement of their lost junks and sampans. Unfortunately the resources of the existing charitable institutions and of the community are already severely strained, and so my Chinese colleagues and I are constrained to turn to the Government for help in the name of these unfortunate people. We ask that a sum of money adequate for the purpose may be specially voted, as was, I understand, done in 1906 when a similar catastrophe befell this Colony. In conclusion, may I be permitted to say how fortunate the Colony is in having at the head of its affairs during the last six months a man of Your Excellency's knowledge of China and of the Chinese, sound judgment, and calmness in face of difficult and trying problems.

HON. MR. M. K. LO

The Mystery of Shing Mun Dam

The Hon. Mr. M. K. Lo said:—Your Excellency: In addition to what has already been said by my Honourable friend the Senior Unofficial Member on behalf of all the Unofficial Members of this Council, and by my senior colleague on behalf of the Chinese Members of this Council, I desire to make some observations of my own on various matters.

To begin with, I would like to say a few words on the question of Water Supply. I venture to think that, until the end of last year, everyone in the Colony was under the comforting impression that, at all events in the near future, there would be no further restrictions, in view of the completion of the Shing Mun Gorge Dam.

SHOCK AND DISMAY

Within a few months the Colony was shocked and dismayed at finding that Shing Mun notwithstanding, the Colony had to be put upon a restriction basis; it was suddenly confronted with a Report on the Water Supply of Hong Kong, published as a Sessional Paper during the early part of the year, which showed the necessity for an immediate further expenditure of some \$3,000,000.

Paragraph 124 of Mr. Woodward's Report reads as follows:—
"124. This Colony has suffered almost continuously from its earliest days from water shortages the reasons for which have been mostly 'financial'. Water being one of the primary necessities of life it is essential that ample supplies be provided particularly in the Tropics where the dangers to health are far greater than in temperate climates. This cannot be too strongly emphasised and it is accordingly urged that not only should the proposals embodied in this report be put in hand at the earliest possible date, but the policy of providing water resources well ahead of requirements be adopted. This latter procedure is generally adhered to by Municipalities and other Water Undertakers."

IMPLICATION REFUTED

I do not know whether I have properly appreciated the implication of the above paragraph, namely, that somehow

the present unsatisfactory position regarding the water supply of the Colony has been due to the reluctance, on the part of this Council, in sanctioning the necessary expenditure. If so, I feel that the implication should be refuted. And this can be easily done by a few quotations from Hansard's Reports of the proceedings of this Council.

On the 18th July 1929 my Honourable friend, the Senior Unofficial Member, introduced a motion in Council that:—
"In the opinion of this Council it is imperative, in the interests of this Colony, that all the permanent measures to increase the water supply which are referred to in the Report of Mr. R. M. Henderson, dated the 20th February, 1923, (other than those which have already been completed) be proceeded with and completed as soon as possible."

GOVT. TO BLAME

After His Excellency the Governor had addressed the Council Sir Henry Pollock agreed to amend his motion, which was subsequently passed unanimously by the Council in the following terms:—

"That in the opinion of this Council it is imperative in the interests of this Colony that permanent measures to increase the water supply of the Colony should be pressed on with the utmost despatch."

In the course of a reply to the motion the Colonial Secretary (then the Hon. Mr. W. T. Southorn), stated as follows:—

"I can well believe, as the Hon. Member stated in a letter to the Press, that the Government can reckon fully upon the heartiest support of all sections of the community in putting the water supply and distribution on a permanent and satisfactory basis, but the Government cannot place upon the Colony a load of debt which it might find difficulty in repaying without an increase of taxation."

ECONOMIC REPORT

To revert to the point that the water situation as disclosed at the beginning of this year came as a surprise to the residents, I will make a few further quotations:—

Chapter 10, paragraph 11, of the Report of Economic Commission, dated February 1935, states as follows:—

"Hong Kong does not at present possess an unlimited supply of water and we are not, therefore, in a position where increased consumption can be regarded with satisfaction as increased revenue. With the completion of the Shing Mun Dam the position will be altered, but until the advent of that happy day prevention of waste is of equal importance with provision of an adequate supply."

In a comprehensive review of the Colony's waterworks His Excellency Sir Cecil Clementi addressed the Council at length at a meeting held on the 5th September, 1929. (See page 134 et seq.). In the course of his remarks he stated as follows:—

"The aim of this Government is to give every house connected with the waterworks, both on Hong Kong Island and on the mainland, a full supply of filtered water throughout the year. This should become possible in 1932, when the first section of the Shingmun scheme, the Kowloon Byewash reservoir and the new Aberdeen reservoir will, we hope, all have been completed."

LACK OF FUNDS

In the Budget Debate which took place on 7th October, 1936, I referred to the rumour I had heard as to the filtering capacity on the Island, and as to the carrying capacity of the aqueduct along the King's Jubilee tunnel, but I did not know at the time that there could be any question of water shortage.

The reply of the Hon. the Colonial Secretary to these two points is as follows:—

"The Director of Public Works has recommended the installation of rapid gravity filters at Bowen Road in place of the existing sand filters but this project has had to be postponed for the present owing to lack of funds. I am advised that the aqueduct at Shing Mun has a capacity of twenty million gallons per day and has been designed to deliver the ultimate maximum draw off from Shing Mun. The size of the tunnel was governed by considerations such as economy of construction."

It will be seen that there was not a single word to indicate that after the completion of Shing Mun the supply to this Island would immediately become inadequate.

During last year's Budget Debate I set out figures to show that the amount properly attributable for interest on the capital expended on the water works, the amount payable for the annual reduction of the capital loans, and for the cost of maintenance, amounted to \$1,700,000.00, as against the estimated revenue attributable to water supplies, amounting to \$2,433,324.00, resulting in an overcharge of some \$700,000.00. The Hon. the Colonial Secretary, in reply to me, referred to figures which had not been included in my calculations, such as interest and sinking fund on a certain capital outlay, etc., etc., and stated that if all the excluded items had been taken into account, the estimated surplus would have been turned into a deficit. But as far as I know, detailed figures showing capital expenditure, depreciation etc. on the one hand, and revenue on the other, from the beginning to date, have never been laid before this Council. Indeed, I doubt whether they are available.

The truth of the matter is that the Water Supply Department has never been run on a strictly business basis, with proper balance sheets, and profit and loss accounts. As was shown in paragraph 31 of the Economic Commission's Report, \$16,000,000.00, representing capital outlay on waterworks prior to 1st January, 1937, had been paid for out of past revenues, and the annual depreciation of 1½% was never earmarked or credited to a reserve fund, but was charged annually on the full capital, and not upon the depreciated capital value, and other items of expenditure were properly criticisable from the point of view of accounting.

WATER CHARGES

The total estimated revenue for water excess charges and meter rents for 1938 is estimated at \$1,900,000.00. I venture to think that this will prove an under-estimate. The estimate for assessed rates for 1938 comes to, roughly, about \$6,000,000.00, 2/17ths of which, referable to water supply, amount to \$706,000.00 odd. This sum, together with \$1,900,000, makes the total of \$2,606,000.00 odd, as revenue for water, which is some \$172,000.00 more than last year.

OBSCURE SITUATION

The Economic Commission Report, Chapter 10, paragraph 35, states as follows:—

"Furthermore, we are of the opinion that the present system of aggregating the revenue and expenditure on water with the general revenues of the Colony tends to obscure the situation regarding water charges and to reverse the expressed policy of Government that water should not be made a source of revenue. We are in full agreement with this policy and we recommend that, to ensure its observance, the water supply of this Colony should be re-organised as a separate Municipal undertaking under Government control and should be kept entirely separate from the Public Works or any other Government department."

I do most respectfully concur with the above view, and urge that the whole Water Department may be re-organised so as to function as a separate authority, charged with the duty of having proper balance sheets and profit and loss accounts, so that the public may be in a position to judge how far Government has carried out its intention of not making any money out of water supplied to the inhabitants.

POLICE COSTS

I notice that under Head 20 (Police Force), the total vote for this Department was under 2½ millions for 1935; it rose to just over 2½ millions in 1936; under the Revised Estimates for 1937 it was \$3,280,000.00 odd, and the Estimate for 1938 is now \$3,307,000.00 odd. I know what the Colony does not grudge any necessary expenditure to keep up an efficient Police Force, and I should like to state that the Chinese Community has noted with pleasure that Government has appointed 10 Cantonese Sub-Inspectors. I feel that my Hon. friend the I.G.P. and the Force under him, are to be congratulated on having successfully put an end to the series of impudent robberies which occasioned the community so much concern a few months ago. But from the point of view of mobilising the forces of law and order for the prevention of crime, I have often wondered, as many people in the community have done, whether the time of the Police officers cannot be better employed in certain directions.

RENT CONTROL SCHEME

Mr. Lo's Proposal For Emergency Measure

HAWKER PERSECUTION

I refer particularly to the arrest and prosecution of hawkers. They are, of course, easy prey. Any constable who is hard-up for cases can quite easily take the line of least resistance, by arresting a hawker on some charge, whether real or imaginary.

The following figures are gleaned from the L.G.P.'s Reports for 1935 and 1936:—

	MINOR OFFENCES					
	1934	%	1935	%	1936	%
Hawkers charged	16030	57.80	23567	71.41	26075	69.44
Other cases charged	11703	42.20	9433	28.59	11474	30.56
Total	27733	100.00	33000	100.00	37549	100.00

I notice that in 1935, out of a total of over 23,000 cases, only 583 were discharged, and that in 1936, out of a total of over 26,000, only 576 were discharged. Even if half of the convicted cases involved imprisonment in default of payment of fines imposed, we need not be surprised at the overcrowding of the gaol! And it will be seen that the number of cases, from 1934 to 1936, has increased from 16030 to 26075, i.e. an increase over 10,000 cases.

I do respectfully commend the above figures to Your Excellency's attention.

TIME ANALYSIS

I can speak from experience as to how much time has to be expended in regard to cases in Court. The Police officer in charge has to attend Court at the opening of the Court and wait his turn, and sometimes his turn may not come until the end of the session, when the Magistrate has no alternative but to adjourn his case. Of the 26,000 hawker cases dealt with by the Magistrate in 1936, I do not know how many were cases in which the hawkers charged pleaded guilty, and how many were cases which involved actual hearing of evidence. Assuming that, on an average, each case took only 2 minutes of the Court's time to dispose of, then it is obvious that the 26,000 cases absorbed 52,000 minutes or over 866.6 hours. I suppose each Magistrate, again on an average, spends about 5 hours each day in Court. Therefore 866.6 hours represent over 173 Court days of one Magistrate! And the expenditure of time on the part of the Police in regard to the 26,000 cases must of course be even greater. If those cases had not been brought, the time and energy saved would have been tremendous, and in this connection I doubt very much whether a third Court at the Central Magistracy would be necessary.

REVIEW NECESSARY

I feel strongly that the whole problem of hawkers in Hong Kong should be reviewed by a Commission, and that the specific questions to be placed before the Commission for investigation and report should include the questions as to whether or not the licence of hawkers other than for certain types of foodstuffs, which may constitute a real and not a theoretical danger to public health, should not be abolished altogether, and as to how "hawker cases" can be dealt with other than by a Cadet Magistrate, and at reduced expense to the Colony. In any case I hope that any Police officer who has an undue number of hawker cases to his credit, will be reprimanded, rather than commended, by the L.G.P.

I wish to say a word about Head 22 (Medical Department).

MEDICINE FOR POOR

The vote has been increased from round about 1½ million in 1934, 1935 and 1936, to \$2,140,000.00 odd (Revised Estimates for 1937), and to \$2,177,000.00 (Estimates for 1938):

Here, again, the Community must be prepared to pay what is necessary to maintain a sound public health and medical organisation. But I have an uncomfortable feeling that, in spite of the large annual expenditure, medical facilities to the poor still leave much room for improvement.

In particular I have received many complaints in regard to the food and lack of essential requirements, including medicine, in the third-class accommodation of the Tsan Yuk Maternity Hospital. I am informed that, with 69 beds, there are available only 3 or 4 air-rings, and 3 or 4 bed-rests, in spite of the large number of serious post-operative cases. I further understand that the stable diet consists chiefly of salted egg and salted cabbage, and that it is much inferior to the diet given in the third-class wards at the Queen Mary Hospital.

I hope that my Honourable friend the D.M.S. will make a thorough investigation into the complaints which I have ventured to bring forward.

CHOLERA EPIDEMIC

Coming now to the recent Cholera epidemic, I cannot but give utterance to the sense of disappointment on the part of the public in regard to the way in which it was dealt with by the Medical Department. The sense of dissatisfaction has been expressed public-

ly in the Press. I gladly and gratefully acknowledge the high sense of devotion to duty and to the public weal shown by my Honourable friend the D.M.S., and all the Medical Officers. The Colony is grateful to them. But somehow the organisation broke down. Take the case of the supply of serum.

On the 16th August the "South China Morning Post" published an account of the interview with the Honourable D.M.S., at which the D.M.S. pointed out that there was sufficient anti-cholera serum for a 5 or 6 day campaign at full speed. The paper also stated that it had been decided to appeal to Manila, Bangkok and Saigon for further urgent supplies. The very next day the paper announced that "ample supplies" were still available, "Government having a good supply remaining of the consignment received from Shanghai, and having secured some locally from the Bacteriological Department." These conflicting reports would appear to lend support to the rumour that the statement of shortage was made in ignorance, or forgetfulness, of the fact that a large supply had actually been lying in the godown at Kowloon all the time, and that the "s.o.s." messages sent to various places to send further supplies to Hong Kong had to be cancelled soon after they were despatched.

INOCULATION CRITICISM

To one, like myself, who has always appreciated the value of educating the general masses in regard to the efficacy of preventive Western Medicine in general, and of inoculation in particular, it is a matter of supreme regret that so much dissatisfaction should have been expressed regarding the way in which inoculations were done by Government during the epidemic. Amahs and boys who attended to be inoculated expressed their determination never to do so again. It would appear that the doctor in charge, hopelessly overworked, and finding it physically impossible to cope with the numbers who attended, had to perform the inoculations without using a freshly sterilised needle for each patient, and had to content himself with merely wiping the needle with a piece of cotton wool dipped in alcohol after each case. However little actual risk there might have been in such process, those who attended could not but feel a sense of repugnance in seeing the same needle being used on so many persons. I realize that it must have been difficult to arrange for more Government doctors to be available for conducting the public inoculations. And yet I feel that, with better organisation, the objection allude to above could have been overcome. And with all the diffidence and humility which an ignorant layman should feel, I do wonder whether it was really necessary to utilise the services of a medical officer to await the arrival of trains, in order to watch for cholera cases. Surely a doctor, by looking at a man, cannot say whether that person has incipient cholera in him!

MUTSAI REPORT

In the Honourable the Colonial Secretary's speech dealing with the Head "Secretariat for Chinese Affairs", he referred to certain appointments as having been made "in accordance with the recommendations of the Mui Tsai Commission and with resolutions adopted by the League of Nations Conference at Bandoeng in 1937." My Honourable friend the Senior Unofficial Member has already expressed our approval of these appointments. But I feel the Colony would welcome an announcement by Government as to its policy in regard to the Mui Tsai question, especially on the point whether Government has definitely accepted the Majority Report. Is Government aware that a petition has been sent to the Secretary of State for the Colonies in regard to extended registration of transferred females?

RENTS QUESTION

Emergency Ordinance Suggested

I now desire to take up a few moments of this Council's time on the Rents question in the Colony.

It is conceded that, on account of the trade depression of the past few years, rentals have fallen below the normal, and reasonable increases in rent may be justified in many cases. But to eject a tenant, in spite of his willingness to pay a reasonable increase in existing circumstances cannot, in my submission, be justified.

Whilst a substantial proportion of the landlords, or even an overwhelming majority of the landlords, may be scrupulously abstaining from exploiting the existing situation, there is no reason why any landlord should be permitted to profiteer at the expense of his unfortunate fellow-men.

I therefore venture respectfully to submit the following proposal for consideration of Government:—

1. That a Rents Ordinance, based on the Rents Ordinance 1922, as amended, and having some date like the 31st July, 1937, in relation to the statutory "standard rent", and limited in duration to, say, one year, be forthwith passed as an Emergency Legislation.

2. That the new Ordinance is to contain a special clause on the lines of Section 13 of the Crown Rents (Apportionment) Ordinance, 1936, providing in effect that the Ordinance shall apply to, and come into operation as regards, such houses, lots, areas or districts, and as from such date or dates as shall from time to time be appointed by the Governor by proclamation.

3. That the rights under the new legislation be confined to the actual tenant in relation to the actual premises occupied by him, in contra-distinction to the "principal tenant", who would otherwise benefit at the expense of his superior landlord.

RENTS OFFICER

4. That a Rents Officer be appointed. And it is suggested that an Assistant Secretary for Chinese Affairs should be Rents Officer in regard to Chinese tenancies, and, say, the Assistant Crown Solicitor should be Rents Officer in regard to non-Chinese tenancies.

5. That the Rents Officer is to hear both the landlord and the tenant in regard to any complaints against either an increase of rent, or notice to quit.

6. That if the Rents Officer cannot settle the matter amicably between the parties, and if he considers that the landlord is acting unreasonably or unconscionably, he is to recommend to Government to "proclaim" the house in question, which would then come under the new legislation.

I submit that the mere existence of such legislation will have a most salutary and deterrent effect, and that it will have the merit of curbing the anti-social activities of any landlord who, in the opinion of the Rents Officer, is unreasonably exploiting the prevailing extraordinary conditions.

THREE MONTHS' NOTICE

In default of a Rents Ordinance on the lines above suggested, it may be that a short Ordinance, to the effect that, during the currency of the Ordinance, no notice to quit shall be valid unless it shall be, say, at least 3 months' notice, may afford some relief against too sudden evictions.

Sir Andrew Caldecott, in winding up the Debate on last year's Budget, suggested a new procedure in relation to the proceedings in this Council on the Annual Budget. The new procedure contemplates "an Annual Address" by the Governor, "in which he dwelt broadly but concisely with current problems and reviewed in perspective the important events of the year." But whether the new procedure will or will not be adopted, the Annual Budget has traditionally been the occasion for reviewing the whole position, past and prospective, of the Colony.

"UNHAPPY STATE OF THE WORLD"

The Colonial Secretary, in his speech, has referred to "the present unhappy state of the world". With all the incalculable damage to the Colony, actual and potential, as the result of the present Sino-Japanese conflict, I submit that any debate on the general position of the Colony must assume an air of unreality if this subject, so vitally im-

portant to the World in general, and the Far East, including Hong Kong, in particular, were to be dismissed with such a passing reference.

I feel sure this Council would welcome a statement from Government as to the position of the Chinese fishing fleets in relation to the present hostilities. The recent statement attributed to the Honourable the Colonial Secretary at an interview, as published in the Press, was, in my submission, hardly reassuring.

Is the position this: that Chinese fishermen—many of whom, like their forbears, were born in Hong Kong, and who have been rendering an essential service to the Colony by supplying fish to the local population—are to be left to the fate of gun-fire, resulting in loss of life and the destruction of their fishing junks, without any redress, simply because, in pursuit of their lawful avocation, they ventured beyond the territorial waters of the Colony? Is the Colony's fishing industry to cease altogether?

NEUTRALITY OF CONSCIENCE

I, of course, accept the position that this Colony must be strictly neutral. But surely there is no such thing as neutrality of conscience? And, surely, no neutrality can prevent either the public, or the Government of Hong Kong, from entertaining feelings of grieved dismay and horror at the indiscriminate slaughter of non-combatants by the Japanese air bombings. As Lord Cranborne, British Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, is reported to have said at Geneva, "words could not express the feeling of profound horror with which news of these raids is received by the whole civilised world.... If this tendency is to continue and to be intensified, can civilisation itself survive?"

Speaking for myself, I find it extremely difficult to concentrate on the Budget figures for the dim and cries of woe, and helplessness which seem to ring in my very ears.

RELIEF FUND

The theme of the maintenance of friendship between Hong Kong and Canton has been the subject of repeated reference in this Council, and only in October last Sir Andrew Caldecott said: "Of the need for understanding and co-operation between ourselves and our Chinese neighbours there can be no possible doubt, and I agree with the Senior Chinese Unofficial Member that it cannot be too greatly emphasised or too often reiterated." In times of calamity such as flood and famine the Government has frequently, in the past, shown its great sympathy with this Colony's Chinese neighbours by voting substantial sums for relief. The suffering is indescribable, and the need for medical succour is unprecedented. Is there any reason why Government should abstain from giving material assistance purely as an act of humanity because the occasion for such assistance has been caused, not by Heaven, but by a nation whose main object, in the words of Lord Cranborne, "seems to be to inspire terror by indiscriminate slaughter of civilians?"

CHINA'S HOUR OF NEED

In most respectfully commending this question to the sympathetic consideration of Your Excellency, I desire to take this opportunity of acknowledging the deep debt of gratitude which the Chinese entertain for the courage, impartiality, ever-willing readiness to receive and consider representations, and high statesmanship shown by Your Excellency in guiding the Ship of State along the troubled waters through which it is passing, and by your Chief Adviser, my Honourable friend the Colonial Secretary, and also for the material assistance rendered by the people of this Colony in the sacred cause of relief of human suffering in China's hour of need.

As the Rt. Hon. H. A. L. Fisher said in the preface to his famous "History of Europe"—"The fact of progress is written plain and large on the page of history, but progress is not a law of nature. The ground gained by one generation may be lost by the next. The thoughts of men may flow into the channels which lead to disaster and barbarism."

The forces of reaction are strong; the challenge to civilisation is real. But if I may be permitted to paraphrase the well known words of William Pitt, I would like to feel that the verdict of history will be that China has saved herself by her exertions, and has saved civilisation by her example.

REVENUE BRIBERY TRIAL

Police Case Book System Also Discussed Critically

KOWLOON STREET LIGHTING

Mr. Leo D'Almada's Speech

The Hon. Mr. Leo D'Almada, Jun. said:—Your Excellency: As a resident of Kowloon and a member of the Committee of the Kowloon Residents Association I propose to deal first with some of Kowloon's more pressing wants before passing on to two other topics of equal interest to me and which affect the Colony as a whole.

The hoary subject of Kowloon's Street Lighting is one which, by reason of Government's parsimony in this direction, has found its way into one or more speeches in several previous debates, and from year to year, with a steady increase in Kowloon's traffic, the crying need for improvement grows. To my recollection, the sole fruit of several accidents in Nathan Road after dark, fatal accidents in more than one case, has been, so far as Government is concerned, a promise of better things in the future and experiments on a small scale with modern and better lights. These latter were observed and commented upon by the Kowloon Residents' Association, whose views on the subject were sought by Government, some months ago, since when nothing further has been heard of this matter.

NATHAN ROAD

I venture to suggest, Sir, that even if the financial position does not warrant the admittedly heavy expenditure necessary to modernise the whole of Kowloon's inefficient lighting, Nathan Road, at least, and that part of Salisbury Road which links it to the Ferry, are at present so dangerous to negotiate on a dark and wet night, that to postpone much longer the introduction of better lighting would be tantamount to a disregard of the welfare and safety of the community, pedestrians and motorists alike.

Whereas accidents have failed to impress Government sufficiently in the case of street lighting, it is gratifying to note that these have brought about provision for improvement in another direction. I refer to the vote passed last month for widening that portion of the Castle Peak Road just before Tsun Wan Village. With the completion of this work and that which is being carried out on the Tai-po Road, where it skirts Kowloon Reservoir, the task of eliminating dangerous corners and curves may be said to be reasonably complete. Attention should henceforth be directed to the surfaces of the various roads on the Peninsula and in the New Territories, many of which show signs of rapid deterioration. As a whole, indeed, road surfacing on the island appears to have been carried out much more efficiently—and probably more expensively—than in Kowloon, and there can be no good reason for the difference.

We in Kowloon hope that part of the vote for antimalarial work will be apportioned to the areas near Gramplan and Carpenter Roads where drainage and other sanitation measures have long been in demand.

USE OF WORD "PARK"

Realising full well the difficulties facing Government in budgeting at the present time, I feel that it is nevertheless regrettable that it has not been found possible to include a sum for a Leprosarium. Government, I hope, is alive to the necessity for such an institution and it should be a primary consideration when dealing with the estimates for 1939.

One last word about Kowloon, and this is more specially concerned with its amenities. Promises have from time to time been made by Government to extend Chatham Road "Park"—the name which Government chooses to apply to that strip of grass bordering Chatham Road, a use of the word justifiable only on the ground that it is used even for such places as those where motor-cars are left. These promises have not materialised. An extension of the "Park" as far as the Kowloon Football Club Stand at a cost which must be infinitesimal in comparison with the almost astronomical figures for personal emoluments as contained in the Budget, would bring pleasure to many. The hope that it

would be possible to make provision for carrying out this work in 1938, as expressed by the Honourable Colonial Secretary in a letter to the Kowloon Residents Association dated September 30th 1936, has not been fulfilled. It is a matter which should receive the earliest attention possible.

BRIBERY TRIAL

I pass now to a subject which has been commented on not a little in the last few weeks, and which, but for the fact that the present unfortunate hostilities between Japan and China are overshadowing everything else, would most certainly have gained more public attention and criticism. At the September Criminal Sessions of the Supreme Court two cases were tried in which the Revenue Department appeared in none too happy a light. In one, two Chinese Revenue Officers were indicted for armed robbery while purporting to be searching a junk for contraband cargo. They were found guilty. In the other, a European Revenue Officer was charged with having received a bribe in connection with his duties, and the trial revealed the following astounding state of affairs: Witnesses for the Crown included a number of Chinese Revenue Officers who confessed to having received bribes of varying sums in the same transaction. Some of them even deposed to the receipt of similar bribes by other Chinese Revenue Officers who were not called, making a total of twelve officers in all guilty of this offence.

"SCANDALOUS"

One would have thought that this was a sufficiently serious matter to warrant at least the suspension of these officers pending investigation, instead of which the fact was that they one and all continued on duty and, at least nine weeks after the discovery of the offence, were still entrusted with the collections of the Colony's revenue. In the absence of any reasonable explanation—and for the life of me I cannot see how one can be forthcoming—the position is nothing short of scandalous. I am well aware of the necessity for making use of accomplices in order to secure evidence against one of their number. Never, however, in my experience or within my knowledge has so responsible a body as a government stooped to the point of retaining these accomplices in its service in order to achieve this end. The proper and only course would have been to dismiss these persons, at the same time not charging them, or, alternatively, offering no evidence against them, and if this did not prove sufficient inducement to give evidence, the matter should have ended there. Looking through Hansard for 1934 some days ago I chanced upon some remarks under the heading of Bribes in the Budget Speech of the then Senior Unofficial Member, Sir William Shenton (Hansard 1934 pp. 128-129), suggesting that Government investigate carefully into the possibility of corrupt practices in the Revenue Department on the ground of a single entry in a trader's book and certain rumours.

CAUSE FOR "PROBE"

If cause for careful investigation then existed on such comparatively meagre evidence, I venture to suggest that these two cases, one of armed robbery and another of barefaced, "mass" receipt of bribes by a dozen officers, calls for one of those rigid inquiries which Americans so vividly describe as a "probe". In future, too, the Superintendent of Imports and Exports might well take a leaf out of the Hon. I. G. P.'s book, and deal in his annual report with the conduct of the officers in his Department.

I cannot conclude without some reference to Heads 18 and 19 in the Memorandum on the Estimates of Expenditure for 1938—Magistracy, Hong Kong and Kowloon. Provision is here made for coping with "the progressively increasing number of cases" on both sides of the harbour. Turning to Appendix K being the Report of the Inspector General of Police for 1936, Table V shows the yearly Return of Crime for the whole Colony for 1936. The total Charge Cases under the Head of Serious Offences is 6224 while under Minor Offences the number is 37549, making a Grand Total of 43773. In the category of Hawking Offences we have the formidable number of 26075, or, roughly, 60 per cent. of the Grand Total. Assuming, Sir, that

each of these hawking offences occupied an average of two minutes in a Police Court, this alone would account for 866 hours in the year, the equivalent of 144 6-hour days. The trial of Hawking Offences, therefore, may be said to have been a full time job for a single Magistrate for half of a working year. (I see that my honourable friend Mr. M. K. Lo has made calculations similar to mine, with this difference, that I have credited Magistrates with an extra hour's work per day).

CASEBOOK SYSTEM

Admittedly, Sir, some of these were offences which must be dealt with by a Police Court. But for each of these there must be half-a-dozen which could have been met by a word of warning from the Police Officer in the Charge Room concerned, whose discretion could be relied on in such cases. However, I have heard that the large number of petty offences charged is due in great measure to the existence of what is known as a "Case Book" which constitutes a Police Constable's Record of Cases to his credit, and by which his chances of promotion are governed, the principle apparently being the more cases, the better the man. I have heard even, that fines are on occasion inflicted on officers whose case-books over a certain period show a blank. If this be correct, it is a system which cannot be too strongly condemned, for, while contributing unnecessarily to the work of Police Courts, it has the further and far greater disadvantage of being utterly wrong, in that it is directly contrary to the best conception of what constitutes a good policeman. In the 1912 Edition of Sir Howard Vincent's Police Code will be found the following, from an Address to Police Constables on their Duties, by the Late Right Hon. Lord Brampton, written specially for the book: "... the constable who keeps his beat free from crime deserves much more credit than the man who only counts up the number of convictions he has obtained for offences committed within it. It is true that the latter makes more show than the former, but the former is the better officer."

ANOTHER GAUGE

Making all due allowances for the difference in conditions in Hong Kong from those prevailing in England, I still fail to see any justification for a system which sets the discovery rather than the prevention of crime at a premium. One may well imagine the dangers attendant on such a system where a man of unscrupulous conscience is concerned, with opportunities such as this Colony affords by reason of its thousands of ignorant people. If this system does prevail, then, no matter for how long it has been in existence, I sincerely urge the proper authority seriously to consider putting an end to it, and to substitute therefore some other gauge whereby a police officer's efficiency and his right to promotion may be measured.

DR. LI SHU-FAN

Infectious Diseases Hospital

The Hon. Dr. Li Shu-fan said:—Your Excellency, The Budget for 1938 has been so fully dealt with by my Honourable colleagues that there is little left for me to add. However, there are certain aspects on which I would like to make a few remarks.

If it were not for the uncertainty ahead and other reasons so lucidly set out by the Honourable The Colonial Secretary, I would like to see the inclusion in this Budget of provision for certain amenities, particularly medical: namely, a hospital for infectious diseases and also the long-awaited Sanatorium.

My Honourable colleague, the Senior Unofficial member, has expressed the urgent need of a hospital for infectious diseases. Perhaps as the only unofficial member of this Council with medical knowledge, I may be permitted to pursue this aspect of the question further in conjunction with the recent outbreak of cholera.

CHOLERA EPIDEMIC

For too long in the past we have looked upon the health services from a

parochial standpoint, instead of an international undertaking closely bound with the welfare or the affliction of China and other neighbouring countries.

The cholera epidemic of this year found us practically unprepared, despite the fact that Siam (with which we have close and frequent shipping connections) has for years recorded annual spring outbreaks, and this year one in a most virulent form. From Siam the epidemic had spread to Hoihow, thence here and Canton and later Shanghai and other coastal ports of China.

VACCINE SHORTAGE

We were unprepared in the sense that:

Firstly, we did not possess an adequate supply of anti-cholera vaccine at the outset, consequently our health authorities were obliged to wire for vaccine from Java, Singapore and Europe. I believe this epidemic should bring home to us the advisability of keeping in future an adequate stock of vaccine on hand in cold storage for emergency purposes.

Secondly, we have no proper hospital for the accommodation of infectious disease cases, where they can be admitted without loss of time and treated by a skilled staff, with proper equipments.

The obsolete Kennedy Town Infectious Diseases Hospital proved too inadequate, and resort was made to improvise the old Government Civil Hospital to meet the emergency, with what result can be imagined.

From the first appearance of cholera on the 22nd July, 1937, until the 2nd October, 1937, according to the figures kindly supplied me by the Honourable The Director of Medical Services, 1,635 cases were reported with 1,635 deaths. Some 1,342 cases were treated in Government Hospitals.

HIGH DEATH RATE

In fairness to the Medical authorities, I cannot say offhand how much of the untoward result is due to the lack of modern methods and how much is due to the virulence of the germs of the present epidemic, although the death-rate, which works out to be 63.3% appears to me unduly high.

In urging upon the necessity of a modern hospital for infectious diseases, I wish to remind Government firstly of our responsibilities to the public in all matters pertaining to health, and secondly our international obligation as a signatory to the Sanitary Convention of Paris 1926, which requires among other things, every signatory to provide for the establishment of proper hospitals for quarantinable diseases, (i.e. plague, cholera, yellow-fever, small-pox, typhus, etc.).

CHAI WAN CEMETERY

Under Public Works Extraordinary, Heading 34, I note that provision is made for the development and extension of the cemetery at Chai Wan. Frankly, I cannot view this project with equanimity, because situated as it is, Chai Wan is a conspicuous landmark adjoining the gateway of the harbour. This being the case, I fear visitors to this Colony would be given, before they see Hong Kong, a very unpleasant, if not grave, first impression of our fair island.

I believe it is the consensus of opinion that the natural beauty of this Colony is one of our most valuable assets, and it should be our duty to preserve it at all costs. In this connection, I trust no public works will be done in the future which may have the effect of nullifying the splendid efforts made by the Hong Kong Travel Association in putting Hong Kong on the map as an attractive tourist resort.

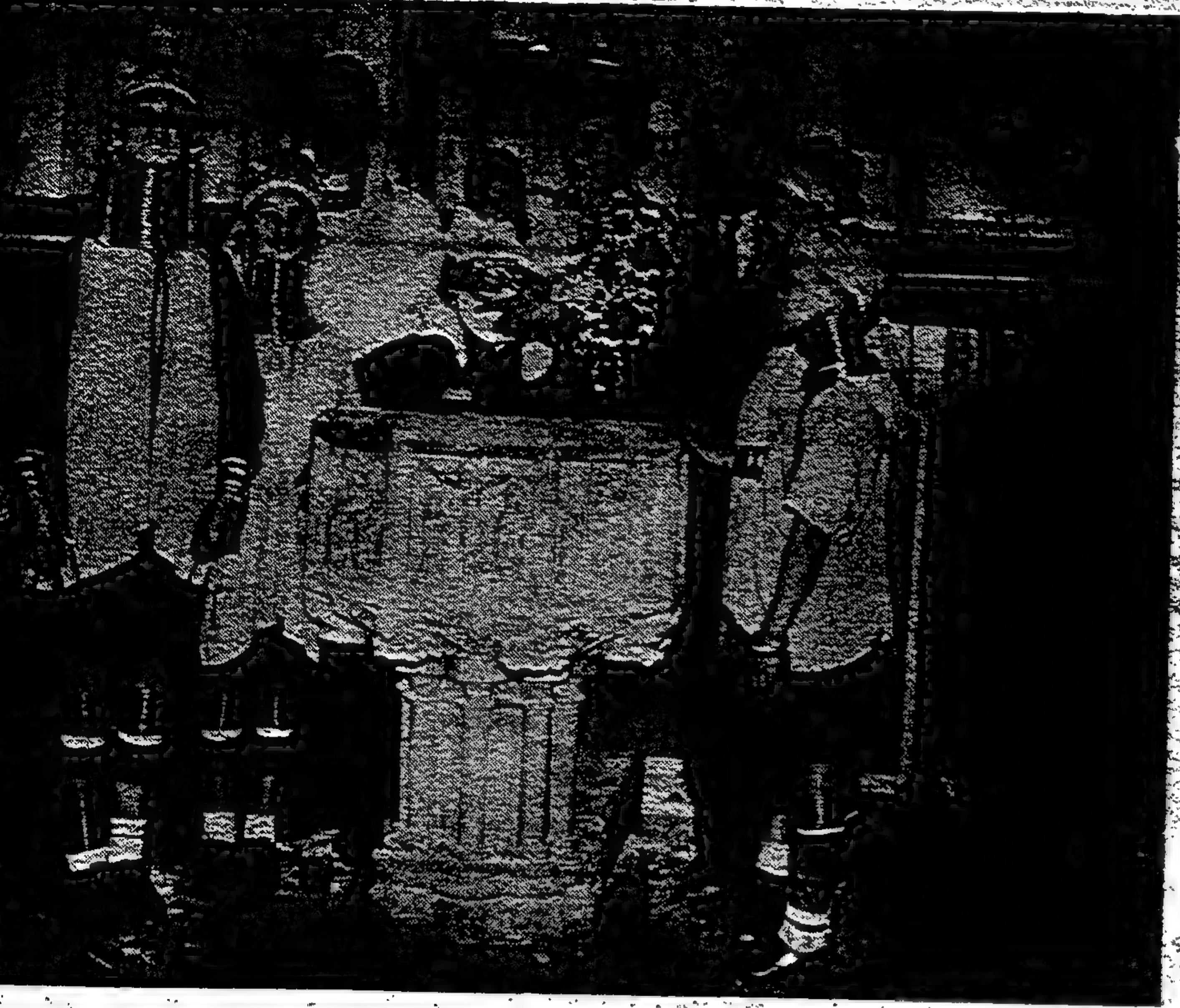
I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate the Chairman of the Travel Association for its successful undertaking, despite the fact that much has been pioneering work. I trust the public will continue to give the Association the support it deserves.

I understand there is a proposal to establish a leper settlement on Lamma Island. If so, I trust Government will carefully weigh the situation before embarking on the project, because of the comparative proximity of Lamma Island to the Southern beaches of Hong Kong and the fact that Picnic Bay, one of our most beautiful bathing beaches, accessible by launch, is situated therein. Admittedly, the objections are on aesthetic grounds.

N. T. AGRICULTURE

With reference to the Agricultural Development of the New Territories, (Continued on Page 5)

BESS MEN'S APPEAL



An old 'giraffe-necked' woman of the Paduang tribe in Upper Burma, took her five months old child to St. Marie's Church in Sheffield. Mu Swai is the woman's name and her baby was named Maung Suri. Her husband is Maung Suri, and the couple along with three other Paduang women, were at the christening ceremony. Mr. A. W. Williamson, the first Englishman to take these jungle people to their own country, made a solemn promise to the area missionary that any children born to the tribe be christened as Roman Catholics. Photo shows—Father Hewitt, and the Burmese women photo—of the christening ceremony. (Fox Copyright).

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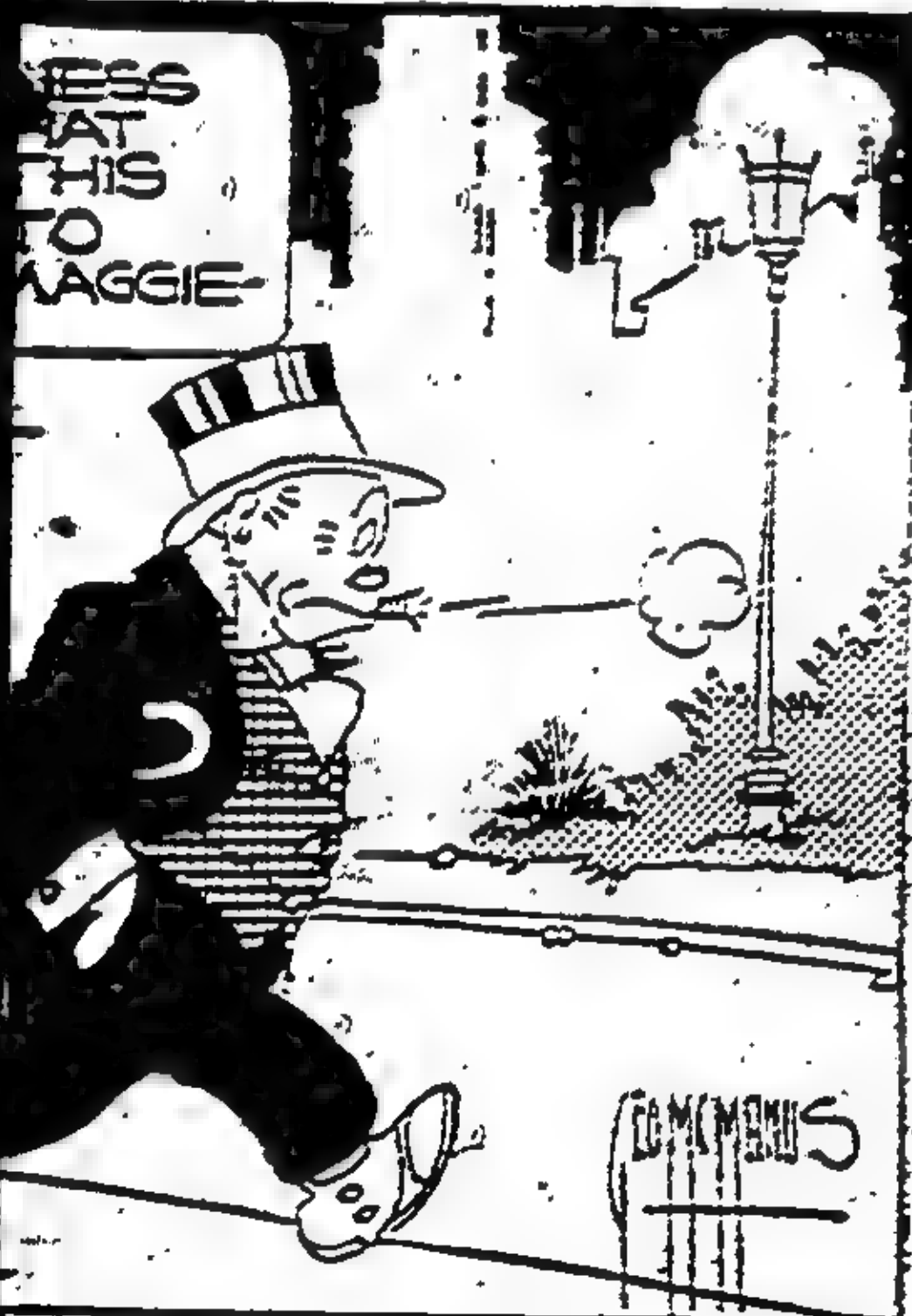
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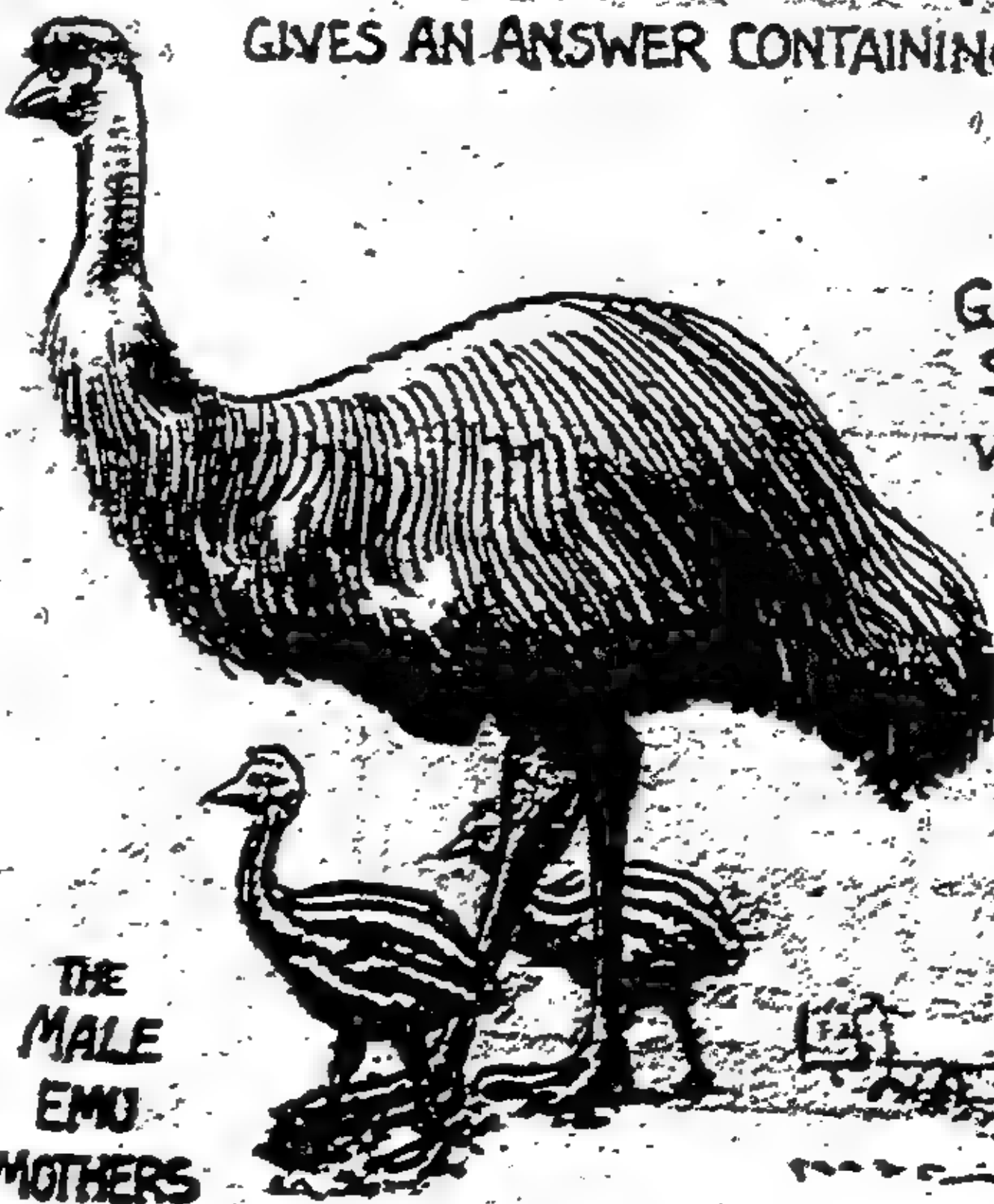
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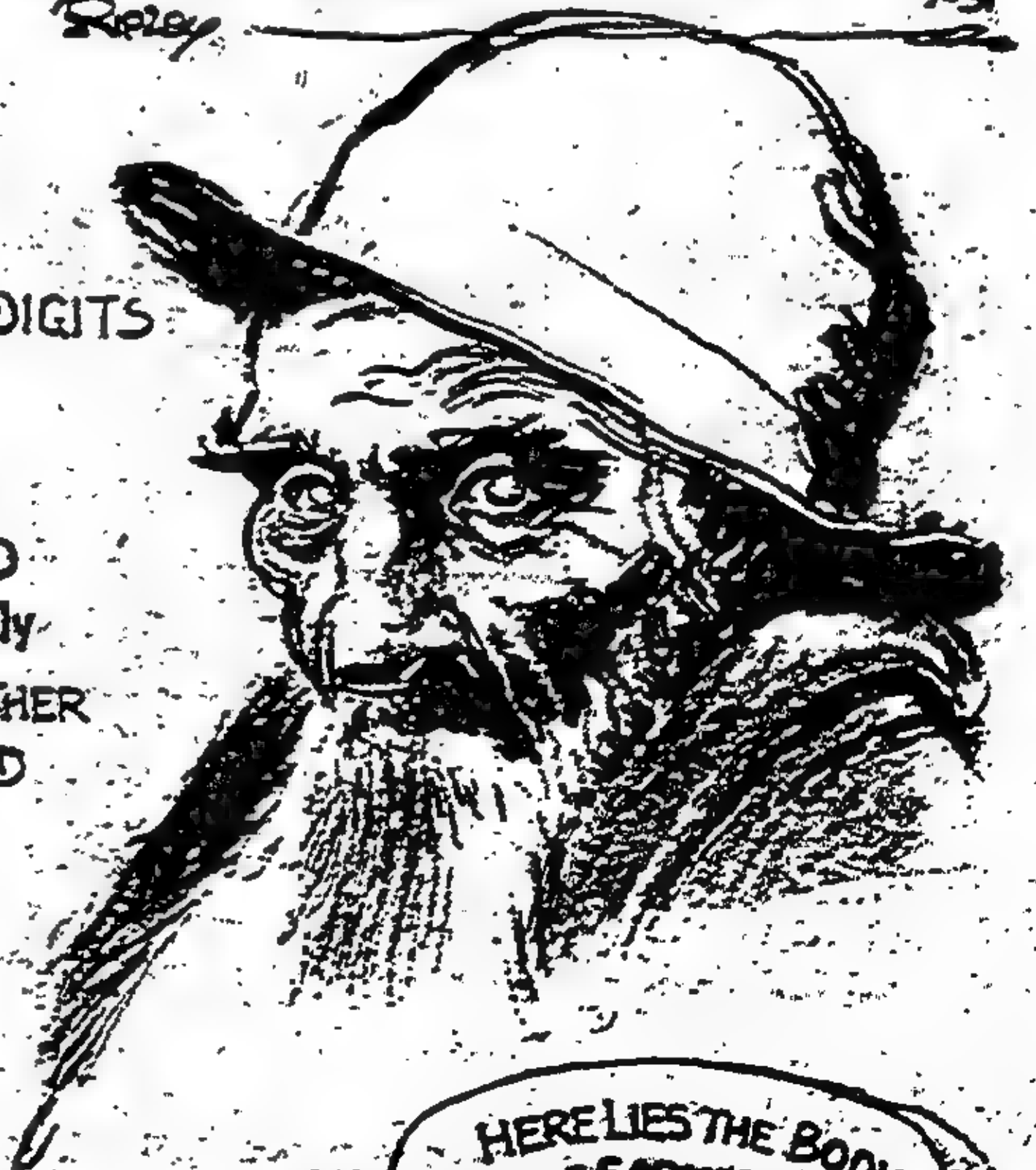
1000 DIVIDED BY 7699
GIVES AN ANSWER CONTAINING 7699 DIGITS



THE FAMILY. HE SITS ON THE EGGS
AND RAISES THE CHICKS.

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OF 32 BLIND
SONS



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and look into your
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you stored away
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wear soon. If there is anything that needs
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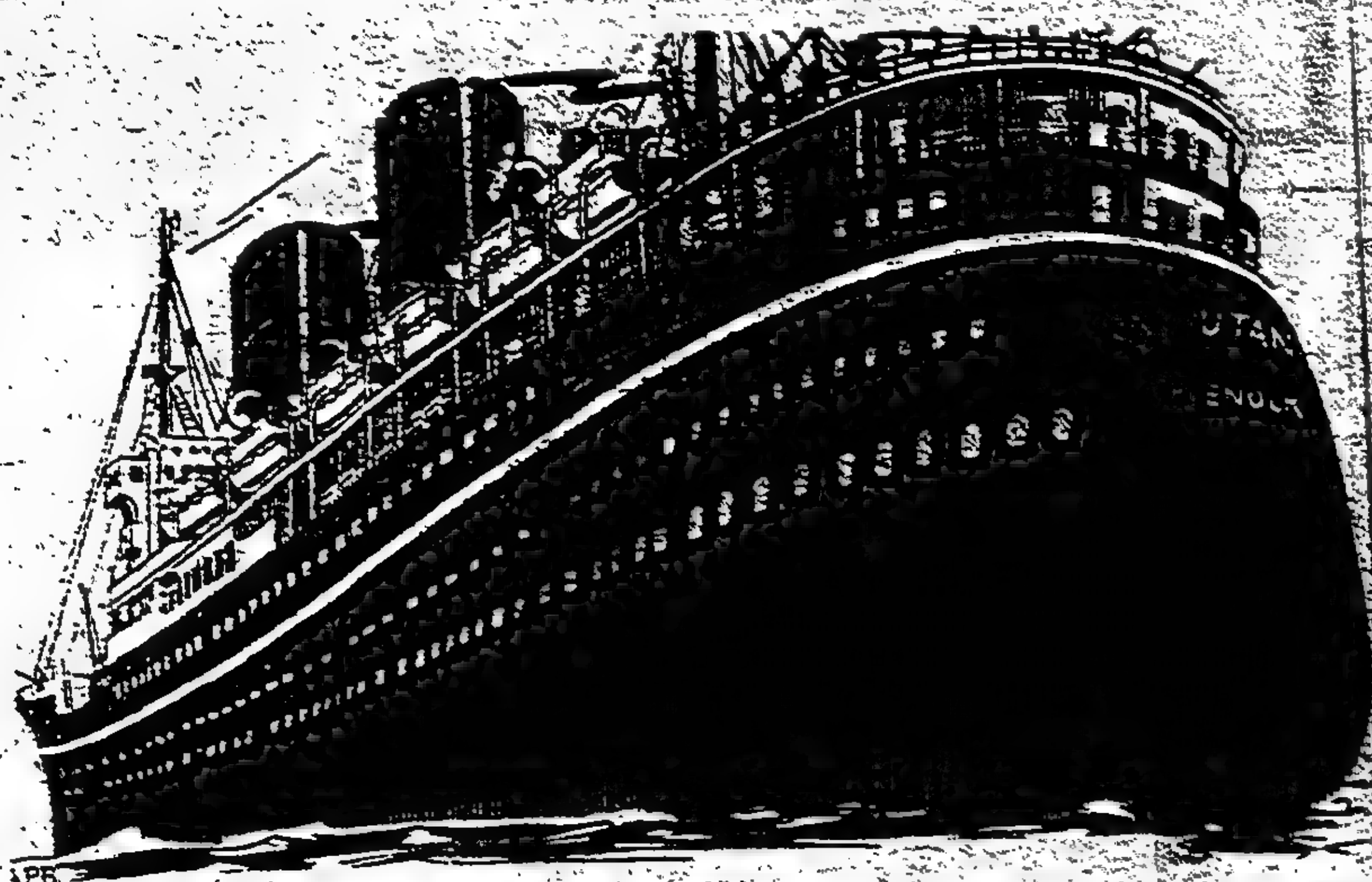
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*ALIPORE	5,300	16th Oct.	Straits, Bombay and Karachi.
NALDERA	16,000	16th Oct.	Marseilles and London.
CARTHAGE	14,500	30th Oct.	Marseilles and London.
*BANGALORE	6,000	6th Nov.	Bombay, Marseilles, Havre, London, Hamburg, Rotterdam, Antwerp and Hull.
COMORIN	15,000	13th Nov.	Bombay, Marseilles and London.
RANCHI	17,000	27th Nov.	Bombay, Marseilles and London.
*BHUTAN	6,000	4th Dec.	Bombay, Marseilles, Havre, London, Hamburg, Rotterdam, Antwerp and Hull.
RAJPUTANA	17,000	11th Dec.	Bombay, Marseilles and London.
*BEHAR	6,000	18th Dec.	Bombay, Marseilles, Havre, London, Hamburg, Rotterdam, Antwerp and Hull.
RANPURA	17,000	25th Dec.	Bombay, Marseilles and London.

* Cargo only.

† Calls Casablanca.

‡ Calls Tangier.

all vessels may call at Malta.

BRITISH INDIA-APCAR SAILINGS

TALMA	10,000	20th Oct.	Singapore, Port Swettenham, Penang, Rangoon and Calcutta.
SIRDHANA	8,000	4th Nov.	
SHIRALA	8,000	18th Nov.	
TILAWA	10,000	2nd Dec.	
SANTHA	8,000	16th Dec.	



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EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN SAILINGS

NELLORE	7,000	30th Oct.	Manila, Rabaul, Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne and Hobart.
TANDA	7,000	3rd Dec.	
NANKIN	7,000	2nd Jan.	

SAILINGS TO SHANGHAI & JAPAN

SIRDHANA	8,000	14th Oct.	Japan.
COMORIN	15,000	15th Oct.	Japan.
*OZARDA	5,000	15th Oct.	Japan.
*BHUTAN	6,000	25th Oct.	Japan.
SHIRALA	8,000	28th Oct.	Amoy and Japan.

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POST OFFICE

POSTAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Public are reminded that the postage on Printed Papers, Commercial Papers, Samples and Small Packets must be fully prepaid. Insufficiently prepaid Printed Papers etc., are not forwarded.

VIA SIBERIA ROUTE

Letters, Postcards and Samples for Europe and South America are forwarded "via Siberia" if so superscribed.

INWARD MAILS

Manila	Emp. of Asia	October 13.
Manila	Neptuna	October 13.
Straits	Ozarda	October 13.
Air Mail by "Pan-American Airways Direct Service"—San Francisco, 6th October.	P.-A. Airways Plane	October 13.
Manila	Pres. Jefferson	October 13.
Japan	Alipore	October 14.
Straits and Europe via Suez (Letters and Papers) London, 16th Sept. and London Parcels—London, date, 9th September.	Comorin	October 14.
Japan	Montevideo Maru	October 14.
Saigon	Felix Roussel	October 15.
Japan	Nalders	October 15.
U.S.A., Canada and Japan (Seattle, 25th September)	Pres. McKinley	October 15.
Manila	Victoria	October 15.
Calcutta and Straits	Kuttsang	October 16.
Straits	Calchas	October 18.
Straits	Kumishima Maru	October 18.
Straits	Toba Maru	October 18.

OUTWARD MAILS

Registered and Parcel Mails are closed 15 minutes earlier than the time given below unless otherwise stated, and where mails are advertised to close at or before 9 a.m., registered and parcel mails are closed at 5 p.m. on the previous day.

For	Per Wednesday	Date and Time
Air Mail for Manila, Guam, Honolulu P.-A. Airways Plane	Wed., Oct. 13.	
and U.S.A., by the "Pan-American Airways Direct Service"—due San Francisco, 19th October.		
Kowloon P.O.		
Reg.,	Oct. 13, 5 p.m.	G.P.O. Oct. 13, 5 p.m.
Ord.,	Oct. 13, 5 p.m.	Oct. 14, 6 a.m.
Formosa		Hong Kong Maru Wed., Oct. 13, 10.30 a.m.
Thursday		
Dairen and *Canada Victoria B.C.,—Tathybins Thurs., Oct. 14, 10.30 a.m.		
due Victoria B.C. 11th November.		
*Straits and Calcutta	Hosang	Thurs., Oct. 14.
Parcels,	Oct. 14, 11 a.m.	Ord., Oct. 14, Noon.
Straits, Ceylon, India, East and South	Montevideo Maru	Thurs., Oct. 14, 2.30 p.m.
Africa		Thurs., Oct. 14.
Japan, Canada, U.S.A., Central and Pres. Jefferson		Thurs., Oct. 14.
South America and *Europe via	Parcels,	Oct. 14, 2 p.m.
Victoria B.C.—due Victoria B.C., 31st October.	Reg.,	Oct. 14, 3.45 p.m.
	Ord.,	Oct. 14, 4.30 p.m.
Friday		
Air Mail for "Imperial Airways Imperial Airways Plane Fri., Oct. 15.		
Direct Service"—due London 24th October.		
Reg.,	Oct. 15, 8.30 a.m.	G.P.O. and K.P.O.
Ord.,	Oct. 15, 9.30 a.m.	
Air Mail for Australia by "Imperial Airways Imperial Airways Plane Fri., Oct. 15.		
Airways Service"—due Darwin 19th October.		
Reg.,	Oct. 15, 8.30 a.m.	G.P.O. and K.P.O.
Ord.,	Oct. 15, 9.30 a.m.	
Manila, Australia and New Zealand Changta		Fri., Oct. 15.
via Thursday Island—due Thurs-	Parcels,	Oct. 15, 9 a.m.
daya Island, 26th October.	Reg.,	Oct. 15, 9.45 a.m.
	Ord.,	Oct. 15, 10.30 a.m.
Japan	Comorin	Fri., Oct. 15, 10.30 a.m.
Swatow	Kwangtung	Fri., Oct. 15, 12.30 p.m.
Japan, Canada, U.S.A., Central and Emp. of Asia		Fri., Oct. 15.
South America, and *Europe via		
Vancouver B.C. (Parcels for		
Canada only)—due Vancouver	Parcels,	Oct. 15, 2 p.m.
B.C., 1st November, and *Europe	Reg.,	Oct. 15, 3.15 p.m.
via Siberia	Ord.,	Oct. 15, 4 p.m.

*Superscribed correspondence only.

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TAIYO MARU Monday, 15th Nov.
SEATTLE & VANCOUVER (starts from Kobe)
HIKAWA MARU Saturday, 23rd Oct.

NEW YORK via Panama

NAGARA MARU Thursday, 28th Oct.

SOUTH AMERICA (West Coast) via Japan, Honolulu, Hilo, Los Angeles, Mexico and Panama.

HEIYO MARU Thursday, 14th Oct.

LONDON, MARSEILLES, ANTWERP & ROTTERDAM

HAZAKI MARU Sunday, 10th Oct.

LIVERPOOL via Port Said, Beyrouth, Istanbul, Piraeus, and Marseilles.

LISBON MARU Sunday, 14th Nov.

SYDNEY & MELBOURNE via Manila & Ports

KITANO MARU Saturday, 23rd Oct.

BOMBAY

TOYOOKA MARU Wednesday, 27th Oct.

TANGO MARU Sunday, 10th Oct.

CALCUTTA via Singapore, Penang & Rangoon

INAGATO MARU Tuesday, 26th Oct.

KOBE & YOKOHAMA (Omitting Shanghai).

KAMO MARU Friday, 22nd Oct.

HARUNA MARU Saturday, 23rd Oct.

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Tokai Maru Thurs. 4th Nov.
Kine Maru Mon. 22nd Nov.

RIO-DE-JANEIRO, SANTOS, MONTEVIDEO & BUENOS AIRES via Singapore, Colombo, Durban and Cape Town

Montevideo Maru Fri. 15th Oct.
Lapata Maru Mon. 15th Nov.

MOMBASA, ZANZIBAR, DAR-ESS-SALAAM, BEIRA, LOURENCO MARQUES, DURBAN, ALGOA BAY, CAPE TOWN & SOUTH AMERICAN PORTS via Singapore & Colombo

Africa Maru Wed. 3rd Nov.
Hawaii Maru Wed. 1st Dec.

SOMBAY & KARACHI via Singapore, Penang and Colombo

Celebes Maru Tues. 19th Oct.
London Maru Wed. 3rd Nov.

CALCUTTA via Singapore, Belawan Deli & Rangoon

Hague Maru Tues. 2nd Nov.

JAPAN via Takao and Keelung

Hawaii Maru Mon. 25th Oct.
Bjorn Maru Tues. 23rd Nov.
Arizona Maru Fri. 26th Nov.

JAPAN PORTS via Dairen

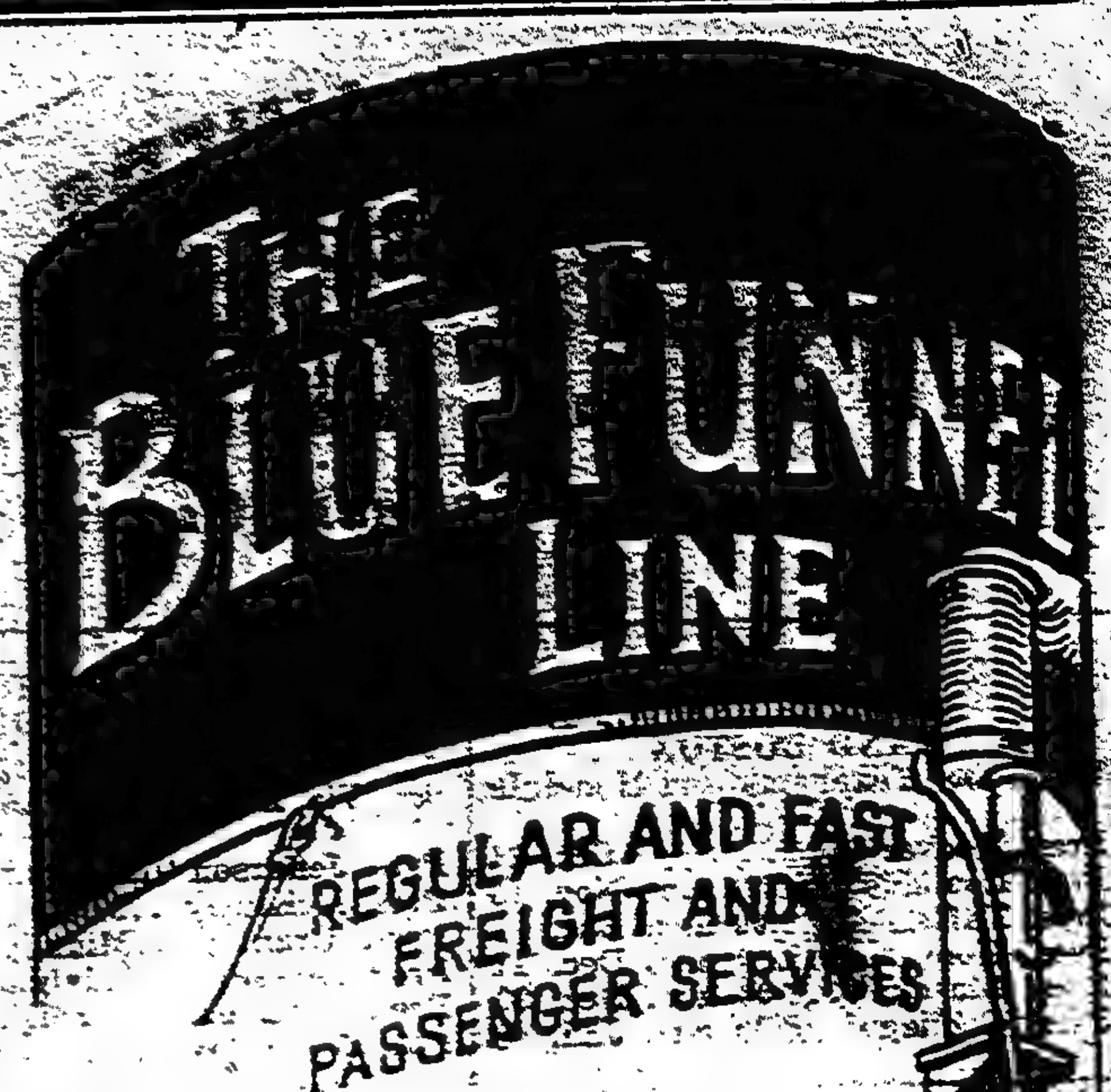
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Hong Kong Maru Sun. 24th Oct.

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NEW YORK SERVICE

TROILUS Sails 7 Nov. for Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore via Batavia, Straits, and Cape of Good Hope.

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TALTHYRIUS Sails 14 Oct. for Victoria, Vancouver and Seattle.

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CHANGTE	10 Dec.	17 Dec.	20 Dec.	5 Jan.
TAIPING	7 Jan.	14 Jan.	26 Jan.	31 Jan.

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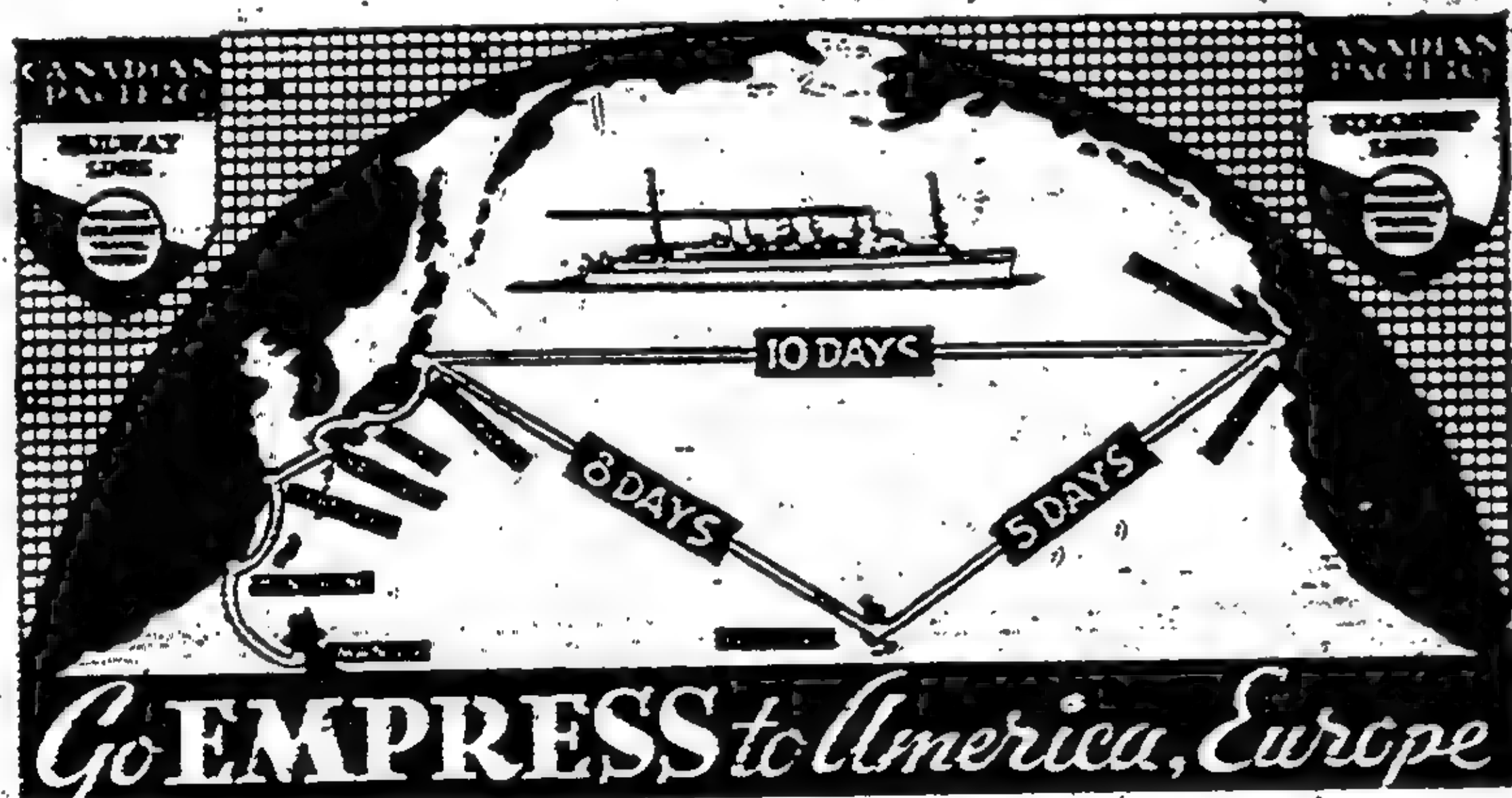
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Pres. Coolidge 10.00 a.m. Nov. 13	Pres. McKinley Midnight Oct. 22
Pres. Taft 8.00 a.m. Dec. 1	Pres. Grant Midnight Nov. 5
Pres. Hoover 8.00 a.m. Dec. 11	Pres. Jackson Midnight Nov. 19
Pres. Lincoln 8.00 a.m. Dec. 29	Pres. Jefferson Midnight Dec. 3
Pres. Coolidge 8.00 a.m. Jan. 8	Pres. McKinley Midnight Dec. 17
EUROPE, NEW YORK AND BOSTON Via Manila, Singapore, Colombo, Bombay, Suez, Port Said, Naples, Genoa and Marseilles	TO MANILA THE MOST FREQUENT SERVICE NEXT SAILINGS
Pres. Monroe 8.00 a.m. Oct. 24	Pres. McKinley 6.00 p.m. Oct. 16
Pres. Adams 8.00 a.m. Nov. 7	Pres. Monroe 8.00 a.m. Oct. 24
Pres. Harrison 8.00 a.m. Nov. 21	Pres. Grant 6.00 p.m. Oct. 30
Pres. Polk 8.00 a.m. Dec. 5	Pres. Coolidge 9.00 p.m. Nov. 5
Pres. Pierce 8.00 a.m. Dec. 19	Pres. Adams 8.00 a.m. Nov. 7

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Canada	Oct. 29	—	—	Nov. 3	Nov. 5	Nov. 12	Nov. 17
Russia	Nov. 12	—	Nov. 16	Nov. 18	Nov. 20	—	Nov. 29

TO MANILA

EMPRESS OF CANADA, OCTOBER 22nd.

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Canadian Pacific

RIVER VESSEL BOMBED

Canton, To-day.

It was revealed this morning that during yesterday's second air-raid by four Japanese planes, one river boat, proceeding from Canton to Shamshui was bombed.

Five bombs were dropped around the boat but only one struck the vessel and fatally injured 10 passengers on board.

The damaged vessel managed to limp to Samshui and report the incident to officials.—Our Own Correspondent.

STEEL OUTPUT RECORD IN BRITAIN

London, To-day.

The production of pig iron in September reached the highest daily rate for 17 years and the output of steel ingot and castings created a new record. 726,600 tons of pig iron were produced against 650,800 tons in September of last year and 1,163,000 tons of steel against 1,027,000 tons in the same month of 1936.

The output of steel for the first 9 months of the year at 9,548,300 tons is the highest ever achieved in the same period and is 931,000 tons up on last year.

The record steel production is accompanied by a large increase in typical finished products. For example, sheets as used in motor cars etc. are up 21 per cent. compared with last year, plates for ship-building etc. by 15 per cent. joists, sections, and cars by 12 per cent.—British Wireless.

PREMIER'S SPEECH AT MANCHESTER

London, To-day.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Neville Chamberlain, will speak at the banquet of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce in Manchester on Thursday night.

It is confidently expected that Mr. Chamberlain's speech will be of a political nature and will contain important statements.—Trans-Ocean.

LOCAL SHARE MARKET

Following is the list of changes and enquiries in local share quotations this morning:—

BANKS

Hong Kong Banks \$1580 s., \$1580 sa.

INSURANCES

Union Ins. \$525 s., \$522½ sa.

SHIPPING

H. K. Steamboats \$9½ s.

Indo-Chinas (Pref.) \$51 b.

Indo-Chinas (Def.) \$43 b.

DOCKS, WHARVES, GODOWNS, ETC.

H. K. and K. Wharves \$113 s.

H. K. and W. Docks \$26½ b.

Providents (Old) \$2 b.

LANDS, HOTELS & BLDGS.

H. K. Lands \$30/30¼ sa.

H. K. Realities \$4½ b.

PUBLIC UTILITIES

Peak Trams (Old) \$5 b.

Peak Trams (New) \$2½ b.

H. K. Electrics \$54 s.

STORES, &C.

Dairy Farms \$25 s., \$24¼ sa.

Wm. Powell, Ltd. 40 cts. b.

MISCELLANEOUS

Marsmans Inv. (H.K.) s/- 4/ b.

4/3d. sa.

Singapore Raw Rubber

Messrs. H. B. Joseph and Co., have received the following quotations from Singapore in Straits Currency for Raw Rubber:

Nov/December 26¾ b. down ¾.

Jan/March 27¼ b. down ½.

April/June 27¾ b. down ½.

Market: Uncertain.

LOCAL DOLLAR

The demand rate of the Hong Kong dollar this morning, was 1/2½.

"Spot" silver was quoted at 19-15/16 and "forward" at 19%.

The London on New York cross-rate was quoted at £—U.S.\$49573.

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MONDIALE**

COINTREAU

LIQUEUR

gives a flourish
to the plainest
Cocktail

SOLE IMPORTERS OPTORG COMPANY

AMERICAN FAR EASTERN TRADE FIGURES

Washington, To-day.

A steady increase in American Far Eastern trade is a feature of statistics released yesterday by the Department of Commerce for the first eight months of this year.

American exports to Japan totalled \$216,720,000, an increase of 87 per cent. compared with the similar period last year.

Imports from Japan in the same period were \$143,793,000, an increase of 33 per cent.

Exports to China aggregated \$43,007,000, an increase of 39 per cent., and imports from China \$80,764,000, an increase of 45 per cent.

Principal sales to Japan were cotton, scrap, iron and steel, and exports to China a wide range of commodities.

Exports to China, however, also included considerable aviation equipment.—Reuter.

MOTOR YACHTS GROWING IN POPULARITY

An important section of the International Motor Exhibition which opens at Earls court on Thursday is devoted to motor yachts, the demand for which has been unprecedented during the past 12 months. The craft on view range from an 8-foot dinghy suitable for use with a small outboard motor and costing as little as \$5 to a compact and capable motor yacht aboard which several people can live in complete comfort and cruise with safety to such parts as the Mediterranean and the Baltic.

The number of marine engines on view is probably a record. Petrol units range from a single-cylinder with an output of one-horse-power to a 12-cylinder model of 500 horse-power a large number of engines of the Diesel type are also on view.—British Wireless.

BRITAIN'S FINANCES

London, To-day.

Exchequer returns show that total ordinary revenue is £328,173,682 compared with £313,477,913 at the corresponding date of last year. The effect of the number of large estates which have been proved in the last six months is reflected in the yield of death duties at £48,730,000 against £44,200,000 this time last year.

Total expenditure, less self-balancing items, is £440,553,618 compared with £407,194,887 at the corresponding date of 1936.

Floating debt on October 9 totalled £923,330,000—a net increase of £225,200,000 since March 31—compared with £855,985,000 at the 10th October 1936.—British Wireless.

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Manager.

Hong Kong, 1st January, 1935.

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LOCAL CRICKETERS ARE LETHARGIC

ESTABLISHED PLAYERS DO NOT OFFER SUPPORT

F. H. STOKES' PROMISE AS WICKET-KEEPER

WEEK-END CRICKET REVIEWED

(By "ADREM")

BEFORE getting down to comment on the games played over the week-end, I feel some mention must be made of the strange lethargy that is so evident in most cricket clubs throughout the Colony.

First and foremost, we have the unavoidable cancellation of the representative game arranged for last Saturday and Monday due to lack of support. From what I have gathered, after a couple of days trying to collect two sides sufficiently powerful to justify holding the game, and at the end of that time having succeeded in rounding up only 15 players, the League authorities were reluctantly compelled to act as they did.

I understand that considerable difficulty was experienced in contacting Service players and I know for a fact that Rodrigues and Gosano, Recreio's vice-captain and captain, respectively, were loathe to accept as it would have meant completely ruining the Recreio-Craigengower match arranged for Saturday, the first senior fixture of the Portuguese Club.

Although, apart from cases such as these, many refusals were probably unjustified—I would class lack of practice under the latter category—there was little doubt that the match was sprung on most people at very short notice. If the League authorities had representative games for this season in mind, surely the correct time and place to have arranged them would have been the fixture meeting which was held only a short while ago.

Clubs would then have been in a position to have included these matches on their fixture cards and to have ensured that no games were arranged to clash.

Surely the whole value of representative games lies in the encouragement of the more youthful element. If, therefore, a young and enthusiastic player has not yet reached the stage where he can expect inclusion in a match of this description, he can still benefit considerably by watching the "bloods" in action and seeking to emulate them.

FIXED DATES

If these matches were, in the future, to be arranged early in the season and on fixed dates, they would arouse considerable interest among all sections of the cricketing public, and if, in the same manner as when an interport is in progress, no other games be arranged throughout the Colony, a really big gate would surely be attracted.

So much for representative games. In their second practice match of the season, Recreio were unable to field enough players to form two sides, and in their first outing, K.C.C. turned out only sixteen. Civil Service were even worse. I was told by one disgusted member of their senior team that in their first practice game arranged for last Saturday, only eight players turned up and these eight did not include the better players in the club, who evidently felt that it was below their dignity to waste an afternoon on a mere practice knock-up.

MORE KEENNESS ESSENTIAL

While this attitude persists among cricketers who have already established themselves, we can never hope to raise the standard of those at the outset of their careers and with importations becoming fewer every year, those are the people we shall have to rely upon in the future.

In short, unless Colony cricketers pull themselves together, we can hardly expect to put up much of a showing against our old friends the enemy from Shanghai—if any cricketers are left after the war—and the periodical southern menace of Malaya.

Probably the most interesting match played over the week-end was that between those old rivals the Hong Kong and Kowloon Cricket Clubs, on the former's ground on Monday. Owing to the confusion resultant upon the cancellation of the game arranged by the League, neither side were at full strength, K.C.C. in particular, being woefully below normal standard.

PROMISING KEEPER

The highlights of the game were an Alec Pearce century—a typical effort I hear—and a promising display behind the sticks by F. H. Stokes who, although giving away rather a large number of byes, took some beautifully on the leg and gave every indication of settling down into a useful member of the Club side as he becomes more accustomed to local conditions.

Apart from Pearce's century, Club batsmen found no difficulty in dealing with K.C.C. attack and with useful contributions from Kilbee, Boucher, Gahagan, and Stokes, declared at 255 for 6. Insofar as I cannot think of any absentees other than Robbie Lee and Lay from among the ranks of the K.C.C. trundlers, it does not augur too well for their chances in the League this season.

TEDDY, AS USUAL

Their batting was little better. Teddy Fincher was performing very nicely until Boucher got one past him, but apart from 18 by Lloyd, who batted very prettily, the others failed deplorably.

Swain, who opened the bowling for Club and took 3 for 25, showed heaps of speed and even more inaccuracy. His analysis definitely flatters him. Boucher, Haynes and Pearce, shared the remaining wickets.

Recreio's showing against Craigengower on Saturday, was far from reassuring and without wishing to appear too pessimistic, I fear they will have to spend far more time in the nets if they hope to perform half as satisfactorily in the First Division, as some of the names among their ranks have prompted

local critics, myself included, to predict.

GOSANO—KEY MAN

The great trouble, so far as I can see, is the failure of Rodrigues, Gosano and Prata to find their form with the bat, and to make matters worse, Gosano does not seem at all impressive with the ball. I happen to know that he is having a very arduous time at the moment in the pursuit of his professional duties and has not the time to practice.

He virtually carried the Varsity side last year and once he can reproduce that form we can expect far better showings from this team than is at present indicated.

George Souza, has quickly jumped into his stride. He followed up a 60 in a practice game, with 50 retired on Saturday and I am told, batted with extreme confidence. F. K. Lee also performed very well in his "comeback" and should prove a tower of strength as the season progresses.

NEW RECRUIT

Ramchand, a new recruit, gave every promise of developing into a first-class opening bowler and Esmail has improved considerably, although he does not appear to have been utilised as much as one would have thought. He particularly distinguished himself in this match, bowling only three balls and capturing wickets with each of them to perform the "hat-trick".

This game was marred by an accident to young Archie Zimmern, promoted this season from the junior team. He was unfortunate, early on, to stop with his nose, a ball deflected by Rodrigues which subsequently rolled on to the wicket with the batsman out of his ground. Rodrigues returned to the pavilion with "nosed-out" against his name in the score-book marked by a facetious scorer, and Zimmern was taken off to the Kowloon Hospital for treatment and took no further part in the game.

BATSMEN ON TOP

I.R.C. and Club played trials in which batsmen appeared to find run-getting comparatively easy. In the former game, S. A. Ismail continued to demonstrate his improvement, following up his century of the previous week with 39, while Nazarin captured chief honours of the afternoon with a hard-hit 77. He was closely followed by A. R. Kitchell, who, I un-



derstand, was one of the selections for the Hong Kong XI in the cancelled game.

The Club match proved extremely interesting, Hayward's XI beating Owen Hughes' XI by the narrow margin of 12 runs. Fine batting by G. A. Stewart, M. F. L. Haynes, a newcomer, L. D. Kilbee and H. Owen Hughes were the chief features. Haynes appears to be a decided acquisition as in addition to his batting, he took 3 for 27.

NAVY PROSPECTS

Craigengower juniors administered a severe trouncing on Recreio juniors at Happy Valley, showing a marked superiority in every phase of the game.

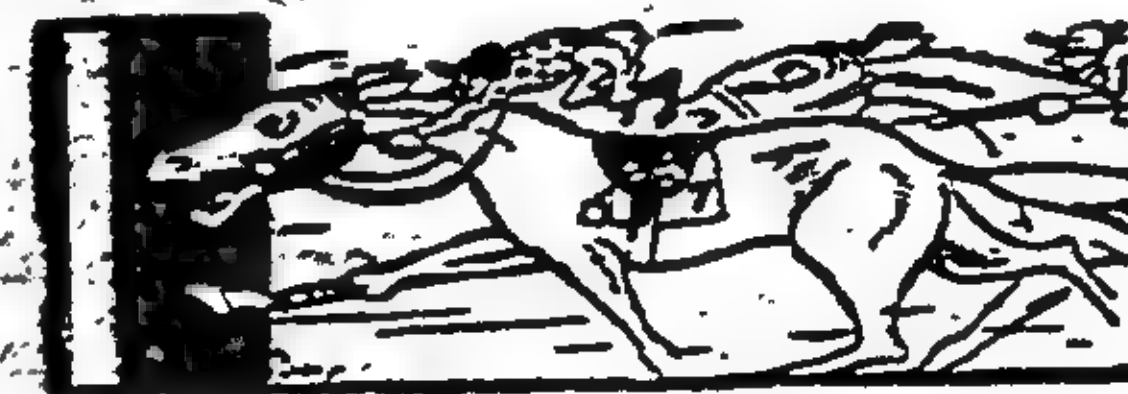
Although Navy have not yet held an official trial, two teams were in action at King's Park and in conversation with the players, I gathered that they will be able to field a side quite up to the standard of last season, although naturally, fleet movements make any definite team out of the question. They are holding a trial next Saturday, and we will then be able, with more certainty, to estimate what talent they really have.

CROSS HARBOUR SWIM TO-DAY

The annual cross harbour swimming race, for ladies and men, organised by the Victoria Recreation Club, will be held this afternoon starting from the Railway Pier, Kowloon, and ending at the V.R.C.

DISCONTENT AT REFEREES' MEETING

The fortnightly meeting of the Hong Kong Referees' Association was held last night. A note of discontent was sounded when it was stated that no reply had been received from the Hong Kong Football Association regarding fees. The meeting agreed that though the press report of the Council Meeting was authentic, the Referees' Association could not rely upon the press for their answer but could expect it only direct from the Football Association. The Secretary was directed to write another letter requesting a reply. After a discussion upon the possibility of securing the services of a competent referee to deliver a lecture, the meeting confined itself to a talk on the rules of the game.



JOCKEY CLUB CLASSIFICATION LIST CHANGES

The following are the latest alterations and additions to Hong Kong Jockey Club classification lists dated, March 16, 1937.

Australian Ponies:—Blandford to "A" Class.
China Ponies:—Honeymoon Eve to "B" Class, Rob Roy to "B" Class, Ouse to "C" Class, Yum Sing to "D" Class and Widner to "E" Class.

K.I.T.C. HOCKEY WIN OVER RADIO

FOUR CLEAR GOALS IN INTER-SECTION TOURNAMENT GAME SCORE FLATTERED THE WINNERS

THE Kowloon Indians' Tennis Club defeated the Radio Sports Club by four clear goals at Caroline Hill yesterday in the First Round of the Civilian Section of the Inter-section Hockey Tournament, but the score greatly flattered the winners, as the Radio team enjoyed an equal share of the play and should have been two goals in the lead in the early stages of the game.

The game was very clean and ably umpired by Captain Kimm and Mr. Palmer. Ramzan was outstanding in the Kowloon Indians' goal, and brought off several good saves in the early stages of the game by sound positioning and good anticipation. His two excellent saves from Gurbachan Singh and flick from Guest, in the first half, had much to do with the final result, for if the Radio had scored, the result of the game might have been different.

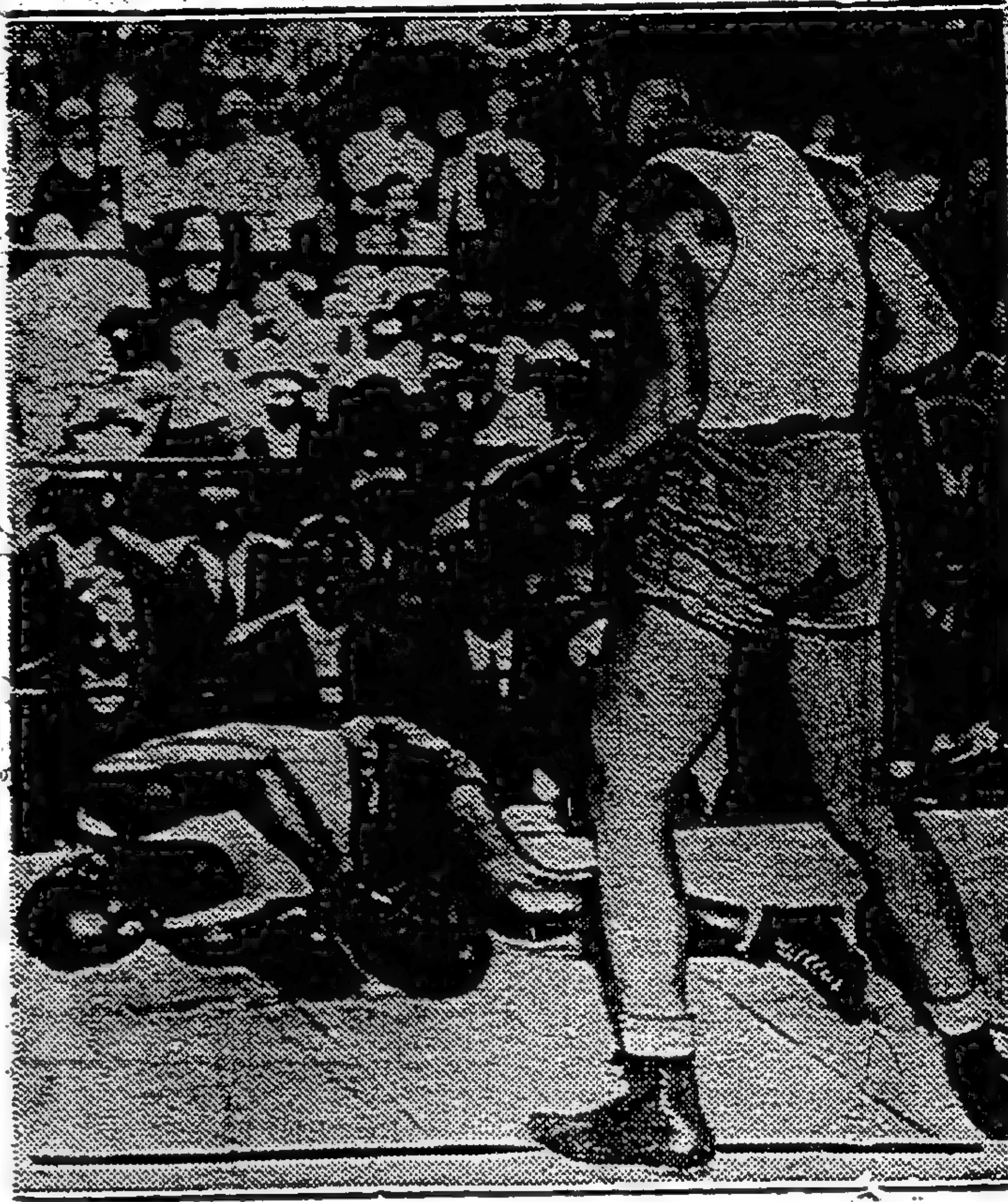
The winners' defence were not brilliant, but put in much hard work. J. Pintos, in the pivotal position, covering both Guest and Gurbachan Singh well, while his wing halves were effective in their marking of the opposite wingers. The backs, Awtar Singh and Karnail Singh, cleared well in the early part of the game, but did not have so much to do in the closing stages.

The defeat of the Radio team must be attributed to their goalkeeper. Guest and M. Gurbachan Singh were the most dangerous of the

Radio attack but the latter was not at his best. He missed a "sitter" early in the second half when his team was only a goal in arrears and his passing often did not find the intended player.

HASSAN SHINES

In the defence Hassan worked hard, at centre-half, and received good support from L. Kitchell at right-half, but the long swinging passes of the Kowloon Indians and the failure of the Radio backs to cover up, by lying too far back,



Joe Louis, seen above, standing over his fallen sparring partner during training for his successful venture against Tommy Farr, has signed articles to defend his title against the challenge of Max Schmeling, of Germany, next June at Madison Square Garden.



owing to an apparent lack of confidence in their goalkeeper threw a lot of additional work on the shoulders of the intermediate line.

A breakaway by Noronha on the right-wing enabled Souza (K.I.T.C.) to beat Lim from close quarters, in spite of the fact that the Radio had been pressing all that period and had missed several opportunities.

Crossing over with a goal lead, the Kowloon Indians were again on the defensive and only the good goal-keeping of Ramzan, and the faulty and anxious shooting of the Radio forwards prevented them from equalising. P. Singh increased the K.I.T.C. lead when he gathered a pass from Noronha and easily beat Lim, and soon after Souza, taking advantage of a slip by the defence, scored again. C. Pintos scored the last goal.

Radio:—Lim; Kalwan Singh and Mohinder Singh; Kitchell, Hassan and Jagreet Singh; Surin Singh, Guest, Gurbachan Singh, Toolat Singh and Jasveer Singh.

Kowloon Indians:—Ramzan; Awtar Singh and Karnail Singh; Latif Ahmed, J. M. Pintos and Malik; J. Woronha, A. P. Souza, Pyra Singh, A. Husain and C. Pintos.

I see that Mr. Mok Hing, former member of the Council of the Football Association, is again taking a great interest in the South China football teams, and I understand that he is the manager of the senior teams.

The finals of the Garrison Sergeants' Mess Billiards and Snooker handicaps competitions were played off during the week. Sergeant Morris B.A.O.C. won the snooker competition, narrowly beating Conductor Andrews who gave four blacks, while Sergeant Smith, B.A.P.C., won the billiards, beating S/Sergeant Wykes by 400 points to 164—Smith owed 100.

UNITED HOCKEY TOURNAMENT TEAMS

Radio And C.B.S. Joint First Division

At a meeting of the United Hockey Tournament yesterday, the Radio Sports Club and Central British Association were admitted into the First Division to fill the vacancies created by the absence from the Colony of the Royal Welch Fusiliers and the Royal Ulster Rifles.

The Nomads were affiliated with the Tournament, but will not take part this year as both divisions are full. At their own request, the Hong Kong University has been relegated to the Second Division.

Rules were amended to conform with the Hong Kong Hockey Association's suggestions.

Teams comprising the Tournament are:

First Division.—C.B.A.; Argonauts; K.I.T.C.; Police; Radio; H.K.S.R.A.; Kumaon Rifles, Royal Engineers, Seaforts; Rajputana Rifles; Middlesex.

Second Division.—H.K.S.R.A.; Kumaons; R.A.F.; R.E.; Seaforts; Rajputana Rifles; Middlesex; Signals; Ordinance; University; Police.

SAINTS' HOCKEY VICTORY

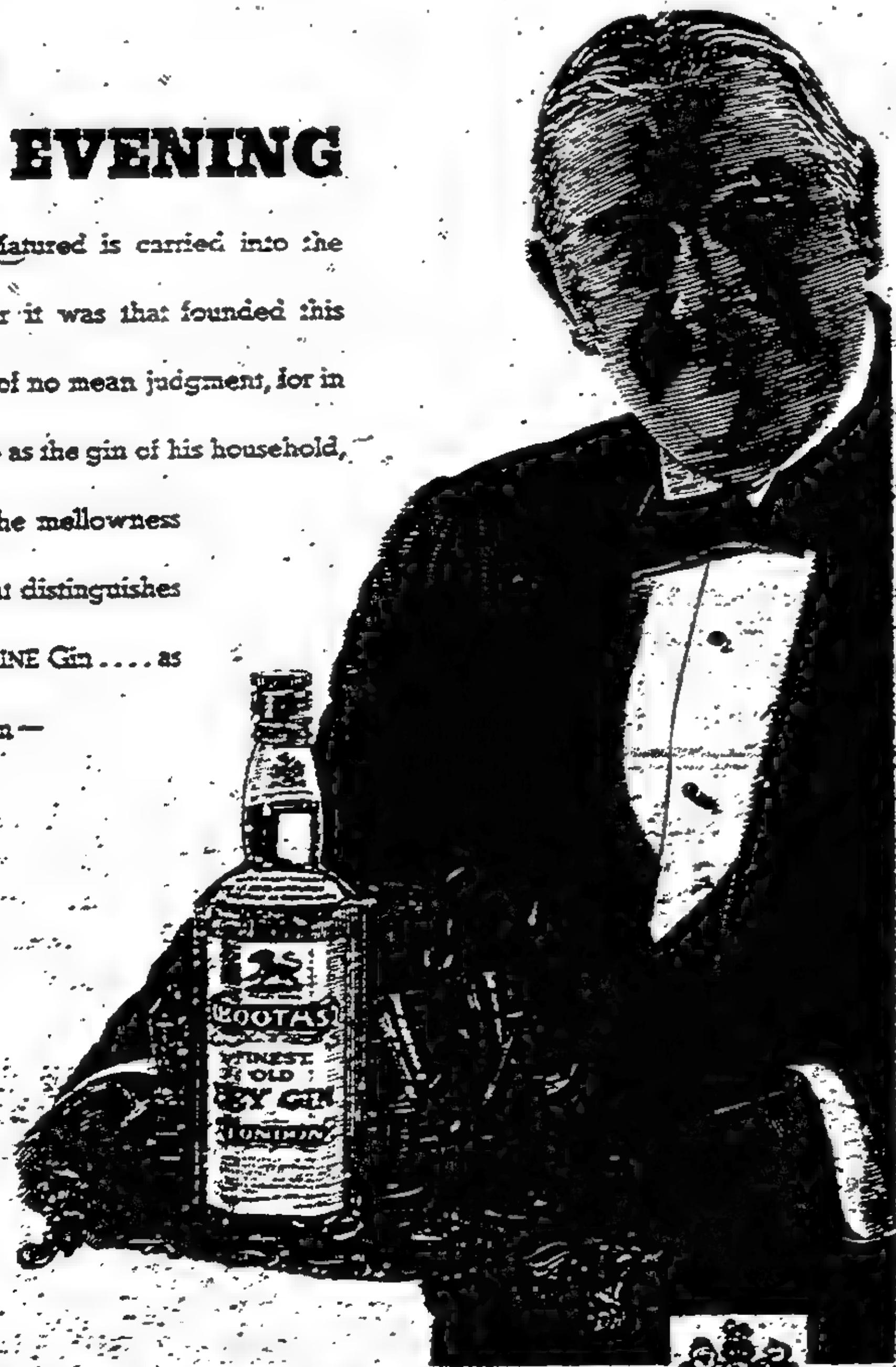
Colledge Scores Decider

Playing their first match of the season, St. Andrew's Club played the Club de Recreio in a friendly game at King's Park yesterday and won by one goal to nil.

Play was fast, and, considering the earliness of the season, was of a remarkably high standard. Though both sides pressed alternately in the first half, no score resulted. Towards the end of the second half, however, W. H. Colledge notched the Saints' only goal.

AT 6.30 EVERY EVENING

... BOOTH'S Old Matured is carried into the Library. Whosoever it was that founded this tradition was a man of no mean judgment, for in establishing BOOTH'S as the gin of his household, he had recognised the mellowness born of maturity that distinguishes BOOTH'S as the one FINE Gin.... as the one matured Gin—mellowed by time.



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MACHINE GUN TROOP GYMKHANA

NEXT SATURDAY'S
EVENT AT
CAUSEWAY BAY

POST ENTRIES WILL BE RECEIVED

The Machine Gun Troop, of the Hong Kong Volunteer Defence Corps, are holding their sixth annual Gymkhana next Saturday, at the R. N. Recreation Club Grounds, at Causeway Bay, commencing at 2.30 p.m. His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government is the patron of the Gymkhana in the absence through indisposition of Mrs. N. L. Smith. Mrs. Bartholomew has kindly consented to present the prizes, while amongst the guests will be H. E. the General Officer Commanding, Major-General A. W. Bartholomew, Brigadier Bissett, Col. and Mrs. N. M. S. Irwin, Col. Barrowes, Lt. Col. and Mrs. Muirhead, Lt. Col. Dowbiggin and Miss Dowbiggin, Lt. Col. R. C. B. Anderson, The Hon. Mr. T. H. King, and Mrs. King and the Misses King, and Major and Mrs. Frank Hogg.

The programme will open at 2.30 p.m. with Musical Chairs, and when the winner of this has been left triumphant on his solitary chair, the Children's competition will be held.

This will be divided into classes according to the entries received and a prize will be awarded to the best boy and girl in each class.

NO JUMPING

As on former occasions, children will have to go round the ring at a walk-trot and canter, but this year the Committee have decided that there shall be no jumping.

The children's competition is followed by the final of the Alarm Race in which two sub-sections of the Machine Gun Troop will prove that, despite the march of mechanisation, they have not entirely lost the art of packing machine guns on ponies and taking them off again with that quickness of the hand which is popularly supposed to beat the eye.

The next event is the Gretna Green Race which is being run this year under new conditions, the ladies lining up on one side of a series of hurdles and gentlemen lining up at the other. At the word "Go" all competitors gallop down to the other end of the ground passing between markposts and then having found their respective partners return "a deux" up the centre and over the hurdles.

HANDY HUNTERS

After this comes the Tent-pegging Competition, and the programme finishes with the Handy Hunter competitions this being divided into classes for Chinese and Australian ponies.

A large number of entries have already been received, but as a number of intending competitors have indicated to the

NEW IRISH OPEN GOLF CHAMPION

J. Fitzsimmons, the 33-year-old steward of the Royal Portrush club, became the new Irish Open amateur champion yesterday when in the 36 holes final of the championship at Dollymount he won by 4 and 3 against R. A. McKenna, of Edinburgh. Fitzsimmons ended the first round with a lead of two holes, going round in 74 strokes against McKenna's 76.

Sports Chatter

(By "REFEREE")

Miss Joan Smalley, who recently signified that she would not be playing hockey during the coming season, now spends most of her leisure moments on the tennis courts. She plays a great deal at the U.S.R.C.

G. R. Clegg-Hill, the cricket interpreter who is now in Shanghai with his Regiment, has wasted little time in getting into action. He has already turned out on several occasions for the Shafores.

Congratulations to Miss Rose Perry, the K. C. C. tennis player on her engagement to Mr. B. B. C. Fletcher, now in Shanghai, himself a tennis and badminton player of some skill.

McKrell, Bedford, and Bloor are among the Lyemman footballers who left on the troopship on Friday. Their departure will greatly weaken the Artillery team.

Committee that they would like to enter at the post the Committee have decided to accept post entries for all events (except of course the Alarm Race).

Admission is \$2.00 which includes tea (Servicemen in uniform \$1.00 only) and all competitors whose entries are received before 12 noon next Friday, will receive a complimentary admission ticket. Anyone desiring any further information about the Gymkhana may obtain the same from Mr. W. A. Mackinlay, 1 Des Voeux Road, Central (Tel. No. 30207) and tickets may be obtained from any member of the Machine Gun Troop. (Contributed).

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YORKSHIRE'S FINE TRIUMPH IN THE CHALLENGE MATCH

AGGRESSIVE FIELDING CARRIED THE DAY

WINNERS' "CONCRETE TRENCH"

(By "NEVILLE CARDUS")

London, September 17.

THE challenge which Middlesex threw to Yorkshire at the close of League Cricket was decided at the Oval on Tuesday. The result was a crushing defeat for Middlesex by an innings and 115 runs. Yorkshire made sure of victory in the first innings, piling up a score of 401.

Middlesex, having the worst of the weather, made a feeble reply. Their score for the first innings was 185 and for the second 101. Mr. Neville Cardus, writing at the close of the match on Tuesday, said:

The storm on Monday ruined the remote chance the challengers had of making a severe fight; it is a pity the game was not fought in circumstances fair and—equally luminous to both sides.

But Middlesex were outclassed before the wicket helped Yorkshire. It was easy enough until five o'clock this afternoon. The Yorkshiremen possessed the character, the temper. Their fielding was terribly aggressive, especially Monday. From the game's beginning Yorkshire were sure of themselves—they built a concrete trench from which to launch the infantry. Middlesex were made to look frail, with demands on our compassion.

MUCH SAWDUST

Not until half-past two was the ground fit for play, and only then after much sawdust had been spread on the wicket, a lot of it deposited there by Bowes, who carried it in his two hands like water and afraid to waste it.

Mr. Cardus closed his account with this characteristic passage:—

The sky became blue and the setting sunshine touched the Oval to transcendental purity. And so the season died, mourned by a good crowd, which went home reluctantly with nothing to do until next

summer but watch football or work. The game was a popular success—but I doubt if anybody will challenge Yorkshire again, except, so to say, sotto voce behind the back of the hand, when nobody is listening in Yorkshire.

NEW AUSTRALIAN PONIES GIVE TROUBLE

Riding Boys Thrown

(By "RAPIER")

After the strenuous two days of racing, the old ponies have been given a rest, but quite a number of the new Australian ponies were on view this morning. It is quite evident that this year's lot seem hard to control, and this morning a few of them practically ran wild, resulting in riding boys being thrown.

Pony No. 35, belonging to "Lucky," was the first to give trouble, and as a result riding boy Lui Chi Ling was thrown at the half mile post, the pony running towards the Golf Club premises, where it was eventually caught.

The second accident occurred to Tinkavkin, a Russian riding boy, when he took out Pony No. 32, belonging to Mr. G. W. Sewell. He was thrown near the last quarter and the pony ran back to the stables.

Lui Chi Ling figured in yet another accident when he was thrown near the main gate in an attempt to ride Pony No. 18 belonging to Mrs. Eu Tong-sen.

The last accident happened to "Johnny" Bill Kitroff, the Russian riding boy engaged by the Kong Stable. He was riding Pony No. 27, belonging to Mr. E. S. K., and was unseated when nearing the six furlong post. The pony was made to continue its exercise.

Beyond a shaking up, these riding boys did not suffer any injury.

RUGBY SUFFERING FROM TOO MANY COMPLEX LAWS ALTERATION TO THE SCRUMMAGE RULE SHOULD BENEFIT GAME

(By HOWARD MARSHALL)

London, September 18.

THE Rugby season is not yet fully under way. It has started, certainly, and in the provinces there are plenty of good matches this afternoon. Even in London, where enthusiasm is not quite so assertive, players are stirring from their summer sleep, and I daresay a goodly crowd will gather at the Athletic Ground for the game between Richmond and Northampton.

THERE IS EVIDENCE, HOWEVER, THAT THE CLUBS ARE BECOMING A LITTLE WARY ABOUT BEGINNING THE SEASON TOO SOON. GROUNDS ARE HARD IN SEPTEMBER AND BONES ARE EASILY SNAPPED. IT DOES NOT DO TO PLUNGE OVER HASTILY INTO THE RIGOURS OF RUGBY FOOTBALL AFTER A SUMMER'S SLOTH.

When we do kick-off in earnest we shall do so under the grave shadow of Rugby Union and International Board displeasure. Much else of interest awaits us, but first the serious accusations against referees and players must be answered.

AUTHORITIES DISTURBED

The authorities are plainly greatly disturbed about the present state of the game. We sympathise with them in their anxieties, and they may count on the co-operation of everyone concerned in their attempts to remove abuses.

It may be argued that they have painted the picture, by implication at least, rather too blackly. The uninstructed might deduce, after reading the recent International Board manifesto, that Rugby football is played by cheats and refereed by weaklings.

Already those who imagine, for some obscure reason, that there is antagonism between Rugby and Association football are gloating. Here, they say, is your fine amateur game, riddled with malpractices and incompetently controlled. Come off your high horse, they add, and let us have no more cant about spirit and traditions.

ASSUMPTIONS ILLFOUNDED

No doubt these critics have suffered from after-dinner speakers, but the fact remains that their assumptions are ill-founded. The spirit of Rugby football is in no serious danger. The game, I am convinced, is as sound as it ever was.

We are merely suffering from the by-products of unnecessarily complex laws. The theory of the game developed too quickly for the law-makers, and their attempts to keep pace with it resulted in confusion. Scrummaging for some years has been plagued by incomprehensible legal sub-sections, and players and referees have had to grope their way haltingly towards working principles.

If irregularities have arisen, players and referees are not necessarily to blame. Give them clear guidance, and the game will

DERBY COUNTY ON F. A. "INSULT"

London, September 16.—The directors of Derby County, one of the five clubs named in the F. A. Disciplinary Committee's report on unfair play, recently sent to all the League clubs in the form of a memorandum, yesterday issued the following statement:

"The fact that the Disciplinary Committee of the F. A. has seen fit publicly and gratuitously to insult certain clubs belonging to the League is no reason why we should depart from the constitutional methods we have always adopted.

"In due time and in due season we will take such action as we consider the circumstances demand. In the meantime, we are perfectly content to be judged by the sporting people who have for a long series of years seen and admired our play."

take a sufficiently straightforward course.

This winter we shall watch, with particular interest, the operation of the amended laws. Considerable changes have been made, with the object of simplification mainly in view. The scrummage law may still look formidable, but its intention is plain enough. For all practical purposes, it amounts to this, that when the ball has touched the ground beyond one foot of the nearest player of each front row it may legitimately be hooked.

SALUTARY REMINDER

There have been other alterations in the laws, all of them sensible, and it now remains to be seen whether the game will run more smoothly. In the meanwhile, the International Board's reminder that persistent offenders must be sent off may have a salutary effect. International football is often too keen to be altogether healthy, and this sev-



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S. L. KING RETAINS KENT GOLF TITLE

London, September 10.

S. L. King, the Knole Park assistant, set up two records yesterday when retaining the Kent professional championship title on the Faversham club's course.

He went round in 67 in the morning to break the course record, set up by F. J. Bradbeer, by one shot; and in finishing ahead of the field, with an aggregate of 141, second has sixth successive win in the event—the longest run in the history of the tournament.

King finished only one stroke ahead of Alfred Padgham (Sundridge Park). Bogey for the course is 73.

ere warning should keep it within reasonable bounds.

We shall find, I fancy, that there is nothing fundamentally wrong with the game or the players. This is, indeed, a particularly promising season, and we may expect that Major-General B. A. Hill, the new president of the Rugby Union, will comment upon its progress with welcome frankness.

We shall miss Mr. John Dame, from the English selection committee, but Mr. Eric Coley, who takes his place, is extremely knowledgeable and active. There are plenty of likely players about in all the four home counties, the clubs are keen, and the omens are propitious. With reasonable weather and a continuance of goodwill we shall soon forget that the game is under even a passing cloud.



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Draft Programmes and Entry Forms for the Ninth Extra Race Meeting to be held on Saturday, 23rd October, 1937 (weather permitting) may be obtained at the Secretary's Office, Exchange Building; the Club House, Happy Valley; the Hong Kong Club; the Sports Club; and the Stables, Shan Kwong Road.

Entries close at 12 o'clock NOON on Thursday, 14th October, 1937.

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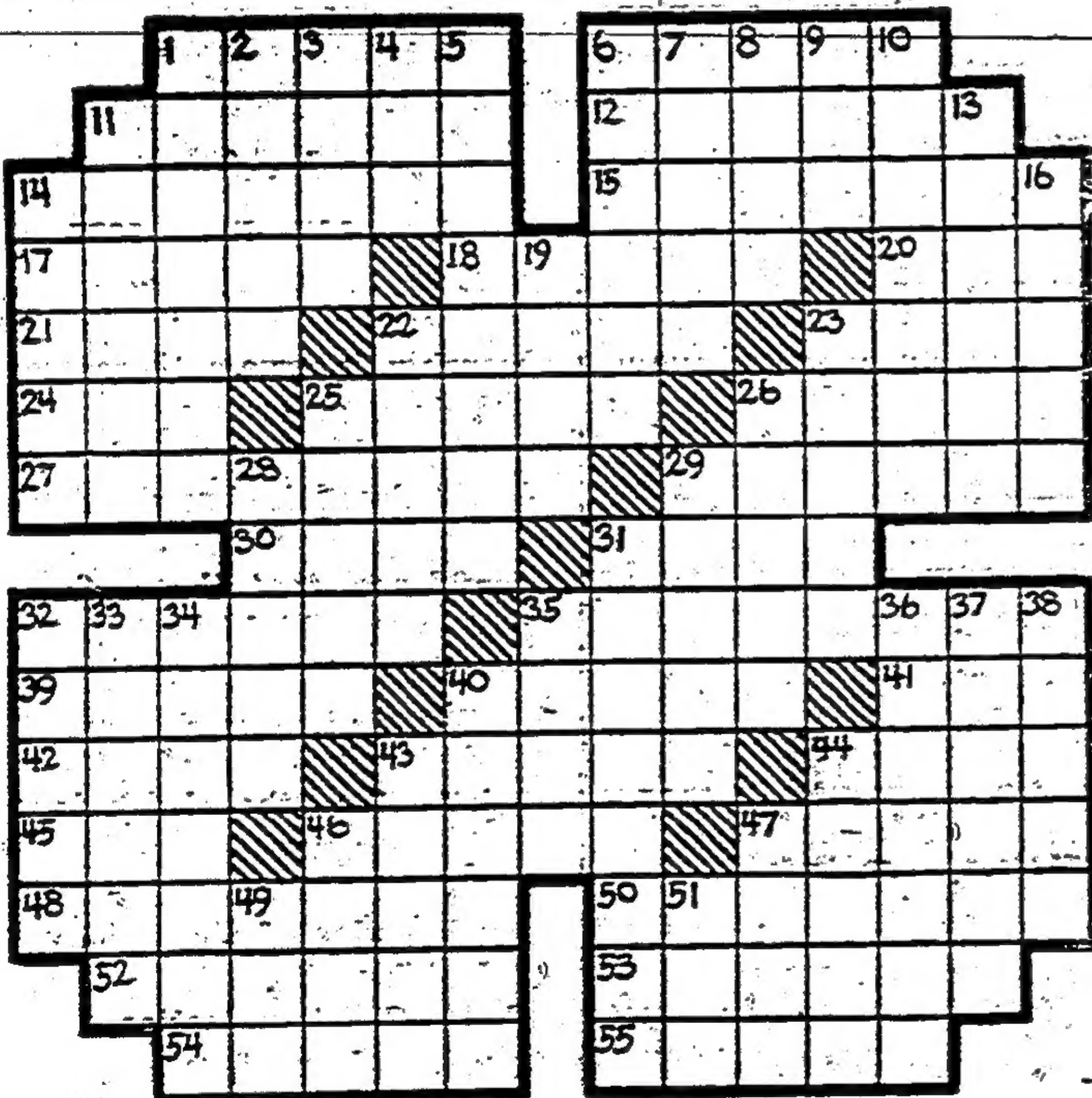
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YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION



DAILY CROSS-WORD PUZZLE

This cross-word puzzle has been made by an expert but our readers are warned to look out for occasional phonetic spelling, such as harbor, plow, and altho.



HORIZONTAL

- 1-Lawful
- 6-Sober
- 11-Strict
- 12-Cured hides
- 14-Gives an invitation
- 15-Accessory
- 17-Renders muddy
- 18-Scatter
- 20-Reformed Church in America (abbr.)
- 21-Sciences
- 22-Looks slyly
- 23-Indigent
- 24-Golf mound
- 25-Bright
- 26-Newly wedded woman
- 27-Perfumes
- 29-Flogger
- 30-Invalidate suddenly
- 31-The cry of an ass
- 32-On board
- 35-A chief support
- 39-Analyze according to grammar
- 40-Clothes
- 41-Raw metal
- 42-Traveler in a vehicle
- 43-A mournful song

HORIZONTAL (Cont.)

- 44-Stupor
- 45-Suffix same as ii
- 46-Spear-like weapon
- 47-Revolving part of a machine
- 48-Domineering
- 50-Mail-boats
- 52-Narrate
- 53-Performers
- 54-More dreadful
- 55-Approaches

VERTICAL

- 1-Descendants of Levi (Bible)
- 2-Wrongs
- 3-Obtains
- 4-Part of verb "To be"
- 5-Made smaller
- 6-Containing stars
- 7-Emaciation with hectic fever
- 8-Again
- 9-Interest (abbr.)
- 10-City in Michigan
- 11-Sleeps, noisily
- 13-Decipher

VERTICAL (Cont.)

- 14-Wrathful
- 16-Scarcer
- 19-A number (pl.)
- 22-Sane
- 23-Beseeches
- 25-Trap
- 26-A vegetable (pl.)
- 28-Obliterate
- 29-A corrupt gift
- 31-A boatman
- 32-A month
- 33-One who becomes surety for
- 34-Commanded
- 35-Residue from wine-making
- 36-Those who play upon pipes
- 37-Furnishes with a coat of mail
- 38-Period of time (pl.)
- 40-A spice
- 43-An Italian poet
- 44-Paint
- 46-Prevaricator
- 47-Girl's name
- 49-Five hundred fifty-one
- 51-High card

The solution of the above with a new cross-word puzzle will appear in to-morrow's issue.

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- 7 1½d Silver Victoria 1837
- 8 3d George 3rd 1762
- 9 4d Victoria 1840
- 10 Argentine 6st 1777
- 11 1 Mile Hong Kong 1863
- 12 1 Mile Hong Kong 1866
- 13 Coin Modica Sicily 1599
- 14 3d Victoria Jubilee 1887
- 15 1/ Victoria Jubilee 1887
- 16 6d Paul Kruger S. Africa 1896
- 17 1/ George the 4th 1823
- 18 1 Peso P. L. Alfonso XIII 1897
- 19 1 Sol. Silver Peru Lima 1869
- 20 1 mace 44 Can. Fookien Mint
- 21 Memento Coin Birth Rep. China
- 22 10 Fr. Belg. Leo. L2 Albert
- 23 Kian Nan Prov. 7.2. Can-derrens
- 24 E.I. Coy ¼ Rupee Vic-toria 1840
- 25 American One Cent Ind. Head 1882
- 26 American One Cent Ind. Head 1864
- 27 American Half Dime 1847
- 28 American Half Dime 1849
- 29 American Half Dime 1854
- 30 American Half Dime 1863
- 31 American Half Dime 1873
- 32 American One Dime 1872
- 33 American Five Cents 1867
- 34 3 Para over 3 Kopeeks 1772
- 35 1 Gild. Silver Holland 1892
- 36 Copper Coin Isabel Spain 1847
- 37 Belg. Holland 1 Gild 1725
- 38 Silver Coin Philip Spain 1745
- 39 Silver Coin Carl III Spain 1770
- 40 Silver Coin Carl III Spain 1783
- 41 Silver Coin Spain 1745
- 42 Silver Coin Philip V Spain 1738
- 43 Silver Coin Philip V Spain 1747
- 44 Ferd. Spanish Ind. 1794
- 45 Silver Coin Isabel Spain 1886
- 46 Ferd. VII Spain Copper Coin 1829
- 47 Carl III Spain Silver Coin 1762
- 48 Large Silver Coin Ferd. VII 1821
- 49 Silver Coin Carl III 1763
- 50 German Imp. Silver ½ Mark
- 51 German Imp. Silver 1 Mark
- 52 German Imp. Silver 2 Marks
- 53 German Imp. Silver 5 Marks Kaiser
- 54 Hachburg Imp. Silver 5 Marks
- 55 Otto Bavaria Silver 2 Marks
- 56 Ludwig 11 Bavaria 2 Marks
- 57 William 11 of Holland 1848
- 58 William 11 Holland 10 cents 1849
- 59 Copper Coin Philip Spain 1733
- 60 Various Old Chinese Coins
- 61 Various Old Japanese Coins
- 62 Several Old Turkish Emp. Coins
- 63 Brazil Silver 400 Reis
- 64 Ren. Columbia Silver Coin
- 65 Port. Copper Coin 1820
- 66 Port. Silver 1000 Reis 1898
- 67 Carlos I Portugal 1000 Reis
- 68 Ludovius I Port. 500 Reis
- 69 Carlos I Portugal 500 Reis
- 70 Petrus V Portugal 500 Reis
- 71 Petrus V Portugal 200 Reis
- 72 Ludovius I Port. 100 Reis
- 73 Carlos I Portugal 100 Reis
- 74 Portugal 40 Reis Copper 1820
- 75 Joannes VI Port. Copper 1820
- 76 Portugal Republic 50 cents 1912

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BELGO-GERMAN DOCUMENTS TEXT TO-DAY

Brussels, To-day.
An exchange of declarations which have been going on for some time between Germany and Belgium will be made public at noon to-day, it is learned from reliable sources.

Before this step is taken, the German Minister in Brussels, von Richthofen, who has been keeping his government informed regarding the latest developments in this matter will call upon M. Paul Spaak, the Belgian Foreign Minister.

It is further learned that the text of the documents representing the Belgo-German negotiations will be fully realised. The documents are several in number, and include a German declaration concerning the European status of Belgium and a corresponding Belgian declaration of her absolute neutrality in the terms of the statement of King Leopold in demanding territorial inviolability for Belgium. — Trans-Ocean.

Italy Changing Minister In Vienna

Vienna, To-day.
The Italian Minister in Austria, Signor Salata, will leave his present post in the near future. It is declared in Rome, however, Trans-Ocean.

JAPANESE NAVY LESS NUMEROUS IN SOUTH

Canton, To-day.
According to a spokesman of the Canton Air Force, most of the Japanese warships have left the South China coast, only about 10 vessels being reported by scouting planes and by coast watchers.

It is believed that the ships have departed for Shanghai following wireless orders from the Commander of the Japanese Third Fleet. — Our Own Correspondent.

ANOTHER TYPHOON DEVELOPS

The Royal Observatory reports that the anti-cyclone over N. China has decreased in intensity. A shallow depression to the South of Japan is moving eastward. Pressure is low in a trough extending from Indo-China to the Carolines.

The typhoon over S. Luzon appears to have filled up, but another depression is indicated about 400 miles E.N.E. of Manila, probably moving W.N.W.

Forecast:—N. E. winds, moderate to fresh; cloudy probably improving.

that the change has been planned for some time and is not the outcome of the recent meeting of Herr Hitler and Signor Mussolini. — Trans-Ocean.

MA CHAN-SHAN FACING BIG SUIYUAN TEST

Peiping, 2.25 p.m. To-day.
According to Japanese sources, a big battle is imminent in Suiyuan between the forces of General Ma Chan-shan and Japanese troops approaching the capital from Shansi.

The report states that the Nakajima and Kawamura Brigades are now within four miles of Suiyuan city which has been strongly prepared for defence, with Ma Chan-shan having at least 30,000 men, including his famous cavalry, at his disposal.

Another Japanese force, the Hasegawa and the Yoshitome Brigades are reported to be approaching the city from the east and to have reached a point about eleven miles from Suiyuan city.

It is expected that the Nakajima forces will withhold attack until it can be made jointly by all the available forces. Fighting has already broken out between the Japanese and the Chinese outposts and the battle is expected to develop this afternoon. — Our Own Correspondent.

FRENCH FLIER'S COURAGE IN EMERGENCY

Paris, To-day.
A French military aeroplane crashed yesterday after having vainly sought a suitable spot for an emergency landing.

The fuel gave out as the result of the machine losing its way in the neighbourhood of Rennes.

When the petrol ran out without a landing place being found, the four of the crew made a successful parachute escape.

The fifth tried to effect a not too serious crash landing, but the plane was badly damaged and he was severely injured. — Trans-Ocean.

CANTON MAN AND WIFE FINED

Leung Ping-fan, a Government employee at Canton, and his wife, Ng Shui-lan, were fined a total of \$200 on charges of keeping an unregistered *mui-tai* and with bringing her into the Colony.

Inspector Fraser said that yesterday a lady inspector was making a house to house visit in Sze Lan Terrace and saw the girl at No. 33. She questioned her and found she had been with the woman defendant for some months. She was sold by her mother for \$90 some time ago in Canton to second defendant's mother who later presented her to defendant as part of her dowry. She was well treated and cared for.

Leung said that he came to the Colony two months ago owing to the disturbances in Canton and was not aware of the regulations of the Colony.

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MacIntosh was found not guilty, and discharged.

H. E. the G.A.G. stated in Council this afternoon:—I think it is proper that this Council be informed of an important decision which has recently been made by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. The operation of the Exchange Fund which was established nearly two years ago have hitherto been conducted in strict secrecy, but it has now been decided on the recommendation of the local Exchange Fund Advisory Committee that six-monthly statements of the exact position of the Fund may be made public. In order not to disclose the Fund's current activities these will be issued about three months in arrears, that is in April and October.

The Gazette to be published on Friday of this week will accordingly contain a statement of the backing of the currency of this Colony as it stood on 30th June, 1937, and similar statements will be published as a routine at six-monthly intervals thereafter.


I do not propose to fore-shadow the figures that will be disclosed in two days' time except to say that I have every confidence that those figures will appear highly satisfactory to all members of the community who very naturally wish to know what security exists for the bank notes which are now, since the 1935 Currency reform, the principal legal tender of the Colony.

I think it will be agreed that Gazette notice as a routine is preferable to announcement in Legislative Council in view of the intervals that occasionally occur between Meetings of this Council.

NEWS FLASHES

J. V. Roberts wishes to say farewell to all his ROYAL friends and News Flashers. In departing, his final flash and advice to all of you, remember: "Things have their root and their completion. Affairs have their end and beginning." Satisfactory in every way is the final consensus of opinion of the purchaser of a ROYAL Typewriter.

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